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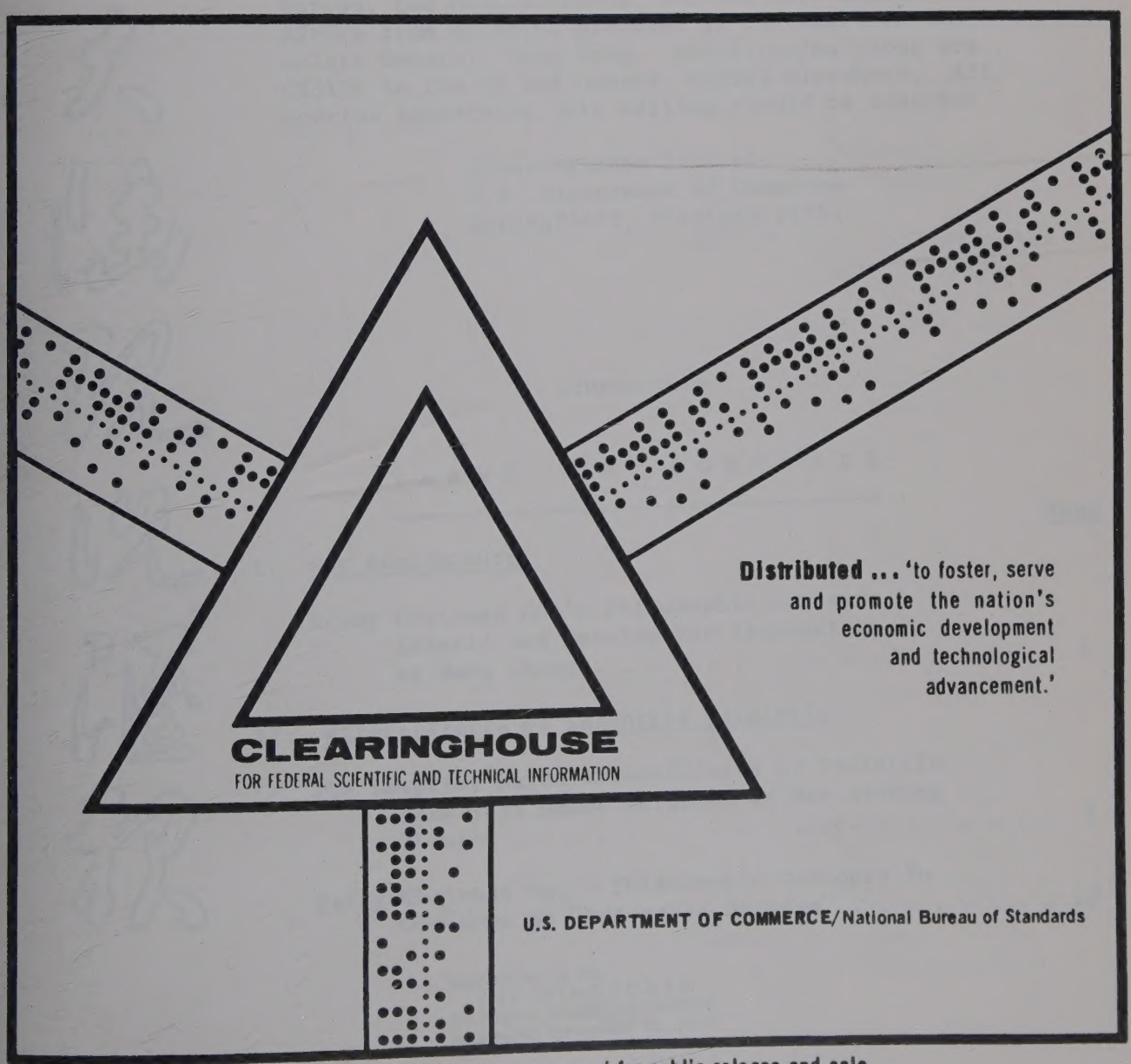
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Acupuncture

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Unless otherwise indicated, these materials are full translations of articles appearing in Chinese Communist newspapers or releases emanating from Chinese Communist news agencies.

I. Ear Acupuncture

Study Chairman Mao's Philosophic Concepts, Inherit and Develop Ear Acupuncture

by
Wang Chung (王忠)
deputy director of a certain hospital of the PLA units stationed in Nanking

(Peking Jen-min Jih-pao April 21, 1970)

Ear acupuncture is the treasured medical legacy of the fatherland. In accordance with Chairman Mao's teachings concerning the unearthing and improvement of Chinese traditional medicine, by way of applying Chairman Mao's brilliant philosophic concepts and continuously groping for and summing up experience, we have, in the practice of adopting ear acupuncture to serve the workers, peasants and soldiers, gradually learned and mastered the laws governing ear acupuncture, enlarged the scope of treatment and improved the results of treatment. At present, under the guiding light of Mao Tsetung thought and as a result of the concerted efforts of the medical personnel all over the country, this treasured medical legacy of the fatherland--ear acupuncture--has cut a conspicuous figure as never before.

Inheriting and Developing the Medical Legacy of the Fatherland

I came in contact with ear acupuncture in 1959. At the time, I read in a copy of magazine dealing with Chinese traditional medicine some information about ear acupuncture. Not long afterward, I accidentally came across an athlete who had injured his left leg in a fall. According to diagnosis, the ligament of his knee joint was sprained. He could not stretched his left leg straight, and he could neither sit down nor stand up. The medicine and injections given all proved to be ineffective. As a trial, I inserted a needle into his ear two times. Contrary to my expectation, this patient could leave his bed and walk a few minutes later. The remedy with ear acupuncture worked so fast that everybody felt it worked like magic. I also found it difficult to understand. But it occurred to me that this kind of therapeutics could serve the workers, peasants and soldiers well, and I resolved to make conscientious efforts in unearthing this valuable medical legacy of the fatherland.

Ear acupuncture is a part of the science of acupuncture and moxibustion of the fatherland. In the medical documents of the fatherland, it has long been recorded that "the ears are nerve centers" and that "twelve nerves pass through the ears." This has been summed up by the working people of China in protracted practice of fighting diseases, and has been in circulation for a very long time. As far back as the Tang Dynasty, the method of treating diseases by inserting a needle into the ear had been known among the people in China. However, restricted by the social conditions and level of scientific development at the time, much of the science of treating diseases with ear acupuncture had not been clarified.

During the period China was under the rule of the Kuomintang reactionaries, a handful of foreign slaves basically despised the medical legacy of the fatherland. They adopted the reactionary policy of liquidating Chinese traditional medicine, and the therapy of ear acupuncture was at its last gasp. After the birth of new China, renegade, hidden traitor and scab Liu Shao-ch'i desperately pushed the counterrevolutionary revisionist line in medicine and public health, and he disseminated the reactionary fallacies that "Chinese traditional medicine is unscientific" and that "Western medicine must necessarily replace Chinese traditional medicine." As a result, the fatherland's valuable medical legacy of ear acupuncture was not even unearthed and put in order, much less inherited and developed. The malicious vilification of our ear acupuncture by the modern revisionists could only show that their own level of medical science was low and that they were politically extremely decadent and reactionary.

In order to activate and apply ear acupuncture, it is first necessary to understand clearly in what way the ears are related with the whole body. Why is it the ailments of other parts of the body can be treated and cured through inserting a needle into the ear? In the textbooks complied by some bourgeois medical "authorities" who worship foreigners, the ears are merely regarded as organs of hearing. They know nothing of the close connection of the ears with the whole body and get bogged in metaphysics.

Chairman Mao teaches: "The world outlook of materialist dialectics holds that in order to understand the development of a thing we should study it internally and in its relations with other things; in other words, the development of things should be seen as their internal and necessary self-movement, while each thing in its movement is interrelated with and interacts on the things around it."

By way of an abundance of clinical practice, of accumulating experience and of conducting analysis and study, we have come to understand that the ears are absolutely not simple and isolated organs of hearings. There are numerous nerves in the ears, and the ears have extremely subtle and complex close connections with various parts of the human body. When an internal organ or a certain part of the human body is sick, a certain part of the ear will develop low-electric resistance, change color, or develop blisters and pain.

When we dealt with a patient who experienced severe pain in the region in front of the heart, we located the responsive spot at the rim of the ear, and when a needle was inserted into the spot, the pain quickly disappeared. At the time the needle was still inserted at the spot, we pressed the part where the patient had complained of pain, and the patient immediately reacted by sensing swelling and pain at the rim of the ear where the needle was inserted. This was in agreement with what the ancient medical practitioners of China stated: "Pain is sensed at the nerve center." "If the nerve function is proper, there is no pain, but there will be pain if the nerve functions improperly."

Chairman Mao teaches us: "What is perceived cannot at once be comprehended and only what is comprehended can be more deeply perceived. Perception only solves the problem of phenomena; theory alone can solve the problem of essence." In the course of continuing with the practice of ear acupuncture, we studied the theory of Chinese traditional medicine, and gradually groped out the laws governing the internal connections between nerve centers.

We employed ear acupuncture to treat a patient who developed a vascular tumor in the region of the nose and the throat. After a course of treatment, the patient, startled and pleased, told us that his nose which had lost its power of smelling for three years could now smell the odor of chili. At the same time, it was discovered that most of the warts on his hands and feet had also fallen away. At first, we did not know that the patient also suffered from chronic coryza and flat warts. Why was it that when his vascular tumor at the nose-throat region was treated with acupuncture, the last two kinds of diseases were also cured? We looked through the records of treatment with acupuncture, and after some comparison, we identified that it was the node of the lungs (肺穴) that played the leading role.

The writings of Chinese traditional medicine dealing theoretically with internal organs state that "the lungs find their opening in the nose, and when the lungs are in harmony, the nose can distinguish fragrance from bad odor," and that "the lungs control the skin and hair of the whole body." This "extra harvest" gave us some new understanding and knowledge of the node for practicing ear acupuncture. We thought that since this node of the lungs "controls the skin and hair of the whole body," and puncturing it with a needle was effective for curing flat warts, could this method of treatment be used to treat other skin diseases? We gave seven patients who suffered from nervous skin imflammation a comprehensive course of treatment with emphasis on puncturing the node of the lungs with a needle, and as a results, all of them were cured. We also made extensive use of this node for the treatment of the same series of diseases in clinical practice--e.g., Zoster, eczema, hives, itching skin, etc., and obtained satisfactory results.

With reference to this and in accordance with the allegation that "the kidneys find their openings in the ears and when the kidneys are in harmony, the ears can hear" and that "the kidneys control the bones, the bones yield marrow, the marrow is linked with the brain, and when the kidneys are strong, the brain is healthy" in the theory of internal organs, we experimented with the use of the nodes of the kidneys to treat such diseases as the incomplete development of the cerebrum, the aftereffects of brain concussion, nervous disorder, tympanitis and tinnitus with very good results.

In this way, we came to understand that the nerves of the ears are closely connected with the nerve center, the nerves of the scalp, and the cerebral cortex. Consequently, each node can be used in a number of ways for practicing ear acupuncture.

Although the ancient people had rich practical experience, yet because they were unable to understand correctly much of the scientific truth pertaining to treatment of diseases with ear acupuncture, the development of this therapeutics was greatly limited and restricted. In activating and inheriting the medical legacy of the fatherland today, our purpose is to develop and improve it. In accordance with Chairman Mao's teaching of "discarding the dross and selecting the essential," we certainly must explain it scientifically.

Chairman Mao's brilliant philosophic concept is a powerful ideological weapon for us to develop ear acupuncture and give it a scientific explanation. By employing Chairman Mao's brilliant philosophic concept and the data of sense of perception derived in clinical practice to reconstruct the old theory of Chinese traditional medicine, "discarding the dross and selecting the essential, eliminating the false and retaining the true, proceeding from the one to the other and from the outside to the inside," we have not only greatly deepened our knowledge of the laws governing the nodes for practicing ear acupuncture and enriched and developed the significance and content of certain nodes, but also discovered many new nodes, thus adding new content to the mine of traditional medicine of the fatherland.

Practice, Knowledge, Again Practice, and Again Knowledge

In the practice of ear acupuncture, we constantly came across some "troublesome" patients. Our attitude toward these patients was neither to reject nor to fear them. In accordance with Chairman Mao's great teaching--"Practice, knowledge, again practice, and again knowledge. This form repeats itself in endless cycles, and with each cycle the content of practice and knowledge rises to a higher level."--we conscientiously dissected the sparrow, grasped the individual difference, ceaselessly improved the efficacy of ear acupuncture and incessantly broadened the scope of treatment.

There was a middle school student who suffered from enuresis. His case history was more than ten years old, and he experienced incontinence of urine almost every night. He had gone to stay in big hospitals, but the medicine and injections given proved to be ineffective. He was also treated in different ways, but the problems were not solved. In the spring of 1969, he came to our health team for treatment.

According to past experience, we surely were better able to treat this kind of disease with acupuncture, and we normally could obtain satisfactory results. Contrary to expectation, however, after we inserted a needle into him two times, instead of checking his incontinence of urine, he urinated more often than in the past. What was the cause? We conscientiously analyzed and studied this case, and came to understand that his enuresis was of long standing. He suffered from it without interruption for a long time, and because the cerebral cortex was for a long time under restraint, the nerve center had lost its power of control over the bladder. Consequently this led to pathological "inertia" on the part of the cerebral cortex and "freedom of action" on the part of the bladder. His case was much more serious than the ordinary patients suffering from enuresis. Our adopting the usual method of treating several nodes could not therefore cure the disease right away with acupuncture.

In view of this, we compared this case with the ordinary cases and made an all-round analysis. Based on the theory of Chinese traditional medicine that "the kidneys and the bladder serve as the interior and exterior of each other" and the relevant knowledge of Western medicine, and in the light of the symptoms of the patient, in addition to bringing into full play the role of ear acupuncture in regulating the organism, we adopted the formula of making combined use of Chinese traditional medicine and Western medicine and pairing the nodes to "stimulate the kidneys and remedy the deficiency," and courageously carried out treatment by stimulating the cerebral cortex and treating with acupuncture the specific nodes to regulate the malfunctioning of the link between the cerebrum and the bladder. After two courses of acupuncture, the patient's incontinence of urine was basically checked, and following another course of consolidation treatment, the patient was completely cured. During the next six months for observing the effectiveness of the treatment, the patient suffered from incontinence of urine only on one occasion.

This course of practice and understanding gave us great enlightenment. Following further Chairman Mao's teaching, "Discover truth through practice and verify and develop truth through practice," we made extensive use of this new formula of pairing the nodes in the treatment of patients suffering from enuresis, and the treatment proved to be more efficacious. We also used the formula for the treatment of many other diseases of the same type, such as urgency of urination, frequency of urination and diabetes insipidus. What was adaptable in the past now becomes more efficacious, and what was not adaptable in the past is now adaptable.

We thus came to understand further that in the past, ear acupuncture was not widely applied for treatment, was adapted to a narrow range of diseases and was limited to the treatment of various kinds of pains. The reason was that we were conservative, followed strictly established rules, were poisoned by "mechanicalism," and had committed the mistake of treating the head when there was a headache, treating the leg when there was pain in the leg, and dealing with the side issues but not the root cause. We only knew to insert a needle into the ailing part, but knew nothing about the pairing of nodes. This was metaphysics, and everything was regarded as isolated, static and changeless. That was why we punctured only a group of nodes when we first treated that patient suffering from enuresis.

The emergence and development of disease in the human body is the outcome of the struggle and transformation of contradictions within the organic body. The human body is a unified whole, and the cerebrum, the nervous system, the internal organs and the limbs are interconnected and they condition each other. When a pathological change of the part occurs in a certain part of the human body, it can affect the whole body or other organs. The condition of the whole body also can affect the course of the pathological change of the part. Each kind of disease is not isolated, and it and some other factors are bound to condition and affect each other. However, among the numerous functioning factors, there is bound to be a principal pair of contradictions that plays the decisive role, while some other contradictions are secondary. The way to "treat the head when there is an

headache and the leg when there is pain in the leg" is wrong because it does not regard the human body as a unified whole, fails to see the interconnection of the various parts of the human body, and is therefore metaphysical mechanicalism.

"The dialectical world outlook teaches us primarily how to observe and analyse the movement of opposites in different things and, on the basis of such analysis, to indicate the methods for resolving contradictions." In treating a disease, we certainly must find out the internal connection between this disease and other parts of the organic body, dialectically understand and handle this relationship of the part with the whole, and find out its principal contradiction and some contradictions playing a secondary role before we can properly pair the nodes, give the right kind of treatment with acupuncture, bring about the transformation of contradictions, take the initiative in giving medical treatment, and attain the object of eliminating the disease and restoring health.

Summing Up Experiences and Advancing Continuously

"Mankind should always sum up experiences and make discoveries, inventions, creations and advancement continuously." Of all the experiences we should sum up in the application of ear acupuncture, the living study and application of Mao Tsetung thought and the use of Chairman Mao's materialistic dialectics to guide ear acupuncture come first. The course of applying ear acupuncture is the course of "transforming the objective world as well as one's subjective world--transforming one's power of cognition and transforming the relationship between the subjective world and the objective world.

There was an old worker who had suffered from the "pulseless disease" (无脉症) for six years. In the past two years, he was also struck by hemiplegia, and he was confined to bed round the year. He had gone to see quite a number of "famous" doctors, but the treatment proved to be ineffective. Later, he came to our health team for treatment.

It was the first time we came across such a disease. Among the data of Chinese traditional medicine and Western medicine, some basically have no record of such disease, and some simply state that such disease is rather rare and there is no special treatment for it. This is a kind of chronic arteritis obliterans, a disease of the gelatinous connective tissue of the cardiac vascular system regarded by some people as the most conspicuous among "incurable diseases." Could this most conspicuous disease be got rid of with ear acupuncture? We carefully looked into the case history of the patient and made a detailed study of the case. We convened a "meeting of wisemen" to synthesize and analyze the knowledge of Chinese traditional medicine and Western medicine of this kind of disease.

We decided to begin the treatment by stepping up the blood pressure to stimulate the enlargement of the blood vessels. We courageously mapped out a formula of treatment based on stimulating the heart and synthesizing the nodes. The result of the treatment showed that this formula was entirely

in correspondence with the objective realities of the patient. After inserting the needle six times, the pulse that had ceased to beat for six years resumed beating in a normal manner. This was followed by more than one month of consolidation treatment, and his hemiplegia was also completely cured. Not long afterward, this old worker returned once again to his fighting post to grasp revolution and promote production.

However, the question did not end there since "deepening of knowledge is still called for."

Not long afterward, we treated another patient suffering from the "pulseless disease." This patient fell sick not long ago and his case was also less serious. Having treated a similar case before, we thought that his case would require at most six courses of treatment by acupuncture. But the treatment proved to be ineffective after eight courses of treatment. We studied the case over and over again and found that the problem lay in the insertion of the needle into the principal and supplementary nodes. When acupuncture was given last time, a thicker needle was used for insertion into the principal node and the needle was inserted deeper. When the patient was treated this time, although the formula of treatment dealt with the the same combination of nodes, yet the needle used was of a smaller size, and the role of "stimulating the heart" was thus neglected. With the cause found, a thicker needle was used instead when the principal node was punctured, and when the needle was inserted, it was properly twisted with greater force. Good results were quickly obtained.

Chairman Mao taught us: "The active function of knowledge manifests itself not only in the active leap from perceptual to rational knowledge, but--and this is more important--it must manifest itself in the leap from rational knowledge to revolutionary practice." Later, we treated another eight patients suffering from the "pulseless disease." We conscientiously summed up the experiences gained from the dissimilar results derived through inserting a thicker or finer needle into the principal and supplementary nodes, inserting the needle to a greater or lesser depth and twisting the needle. As a result, the treatment given to the eight patients all proved to be effective within the time set, and some patients even had their pulse-beat restored after one or two course of treatment.

This time, the practice and knowledge solved one living idea of ours in therapeutic work. In the past, whenever a reversal occurred in the treatment of some diseases or the initial treatment failed to yield prominent results, it was thought that ear acupuncture was "not suitable" for the treatment of such diseases. The treatment was forsaken either by the doctor or the patient. As a matter of fact, there is nothing that can be described as absolutely suitable or unsuitable. Under certain circumstances, something was regarded as unsuitable just because we had not known the internal laws of the diseases and there were still problems in the method of treatment. Once the laws are grasped or the method of treatment is improved, what is unsuitable will become suitable. If this point is not known and we rashly come to the conclusion that the method is unsuitable when adverse conditions

are encountered, then bias will develop in understanding and mistakes will be made in medical treatment. If we were careless, seeing that the treatment was ineffective after the patient suffering from the "pulseless disease" was given eight course of treatment, wouldn't we have labeled his case as an "incurable disease"?

We have also come into contact with a case as follows. As soon as a patient with itching skin was given treatment with ear acupuncture, the results were extraordinarily clear. After the first course of acupuncture, the itch was arrested, and he slept well that night. He was given four successive courses of treatment with the needle and he felt more and more comfortable every day. At the time, we and the patient both thought that the disease was cured, and treatment with acupuncture was called off. A few days afterward, however, the itch returned. As a result of the emergence of this setback, if we held that the treatment was unsuitable, we would have abandoned the treatment of this kind of disease with acupuncture. We analyzed and studied the past and present symptoms together with the patient, and held that this reversal was a false appearance of pathology, a normal reaction in the course of treatment. We made some adjustment in the treatment of the nodes and continued with the acupuncture treatment for a time. The patient was cured in the true sense.

By continuously summing up the experiences gained in clinical practice and applying such experiences in clinical practice, we have further acquainted ourselves with and grasped the use of different kinds of needles--thicker or finer needles--for different kinds of diseases and the methods of inserting the needle--at right angle or some other angles, from one side or both sides, one needle or more needles into one spot or node, the duration the needle may be kept in one spot, the depth of penetration, the rate of penetration, etc.--thus continuously enlarging the "freedom" of treatment with ear acupuncture.

"Freedom means the knowledge of necessity and the transformation of the objective world." There is no end to knowledge, and the transformation from "necessity" to "freedom" is a river of history that develops ceaselessly and is never-ending. In this river of history and in the revolutionary practice of putting ear acupuncture in the service of the workers, peasants and soldiers, we are resolved to make a greater success of the living study and application of Chairman Mao's brilliant philosophic concepts, and to develop and advance ceaselessly for the sake of winning new "freedom" for ear acupuncture.

* * *

II. After-Effects of Infantile Paralysis

PLA Hospital Cures After-Effects of Infantile Paralysis Under Guidance of Mao Tsetung Thought

(NCNA-English Peking, June 4, 1969)

Revolutionary medical workers at a People's Liberation Army hospital, under the guidance of the invincible Mao Tsetung thought, have succeeded in curing the aftereffects of infantile paralysis. This represents a break-through in treatment since the aftereffects of infantile paralysis were considered incurable.

Of the 3,340 cases treated, more than 90 percent showed marked improvement. More than a thousand victims of the disease who were crippled for years have recovered and can now walk like healthy persons. They are taking an active part in the socialist revolution and socialist construction.

The hospital achieved initial success last August when it cured a child who had contracted the disease four years earlier and had been diagnosed by a reactionary bourgeois medical expert as incurable. As the news spread, many victims of the disease came to the hospital from all parts of the country.

The head of the hospital's department of physiotherapy, Chen Meng-yu, had learned that no effective treatment of the aftereffects of infantile paralysis had as yet been discovered, though many countries had established special research institutes in this field. But he and his comrades were not discouraged. They once again studied this teaching of Chairman Mao's: "The sole purpose of this army is to stand firmly with the Chinese people and to serve them wholeheartedly."

They recognized that in medical work there had been a struggle between Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and the bourgeois reactionary line pushed by the renegade Liu Shao-ch'i and his agents. The latter did not proceed from the interests of the working masses and refused to pay serious attention to the treatment of common and recurrent diseases.

As members of the people's army, the medical workers pledged to faithfully follow Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and work in the interests of the masses. Boundlessly loyal to Chairman Mao, they worked to make a new break-through in world medicine and cure the aftereffects of infantile paralysis.

Under the leadership of the hospital Party committee, the medical workers studied Chairman Mao's brilliant teachings on medical and health work and carried out investigations among the workers and poor and lower middle peasants.

They met Tung Lien-fang, a woman worker at the Changchun Garment Factory, whose two children had contracted infantile paralysis six years earlier. With great anxiety, she said, she had taken her children to a big hospital but a doctor there, after a hasty examination, had told her: "Your children are incurable. Don't try to consult doctors any more." The disease had made the children suffer. Their bodies had wasted and they could not look after themselves. This often affected her work at the factory.

The medical workers met another worker called "Uncle Han." He had worked for landlords starting as a boy and got married at 40. His only child contracted infantile paralysis 14 years ago, at the age of three. "Uncle Han" consulted doctors every year. But all his efforts were of no avail. In addition to the paralysis of the left leg, the child had increasing difficulty in using his right leg.

While telling these stories to the army medical workers, both Tung Lien-fang and "Uncle Han" were furious at the bourgeois reactionary line pushed by Liu Shao-ch'i in medical work.

Listening to the statements of the patients and their families, the medical workers received a deep education on the struggle between the two lines. They vowed to our great leader Chairman Mao that they were determined to defend Chairman Mao's line in medical and health work in action and restore more of their class brothers to health.

The medical workers began treating the aftereffects of infantile paralysis with acupuncture. They studied Chairman Mao's teaching: "Where do correct ideas come from? Do they drop from the skies? No. Are they innate in the mind? No. They come from social practice, and from it alone; they come from three kinds of social practice, the struggle for production, the class struggle and scientific experiment." They realized that the acupuncture points known today were found by predecessors through clinical treatment of countless cases of diseases, and that this process of locating points had not come to a halt. They believed that they should "go on discovering, inventing, creating and advancing."

In order to lessen the pain of their class brothers, the medical workers decided to determine new acupuncture points for the aftereffects of infantile paralysis by experimenting on themselves. They said: "By feeling more pain ourselves, we will bring happiness to more people; if we are not sure of the acupuncture points for curing the disease, we will not thrust the needle in a class brother."

For many days, after returning home from work, Chen Meng-yu tried needles at different points on his own legs, by varied methods, using all kinds of needles. Bearing the pain, he thrust a big needle used for injections into an acupuncture point. He felt as if his leg had received an electric shock and he began to sweat. When he twirled the needle round, his leg felt sore and numb for a quite long time. He was overjoyed and told about this new discovery to his comrades. Forgetting all pain, Chen Meng-yu carried out experiments with other comrades. After practice, they

discovered nine acupuncture points and created advanced experience in curing the aftereffects of infantile paralysis.

"These battalions of ours are wholly dedicated to the liberation of the people and work entirely in the people's interests." The medical workers bear in mind this great teaching of Chairman Mao's and regard the suffering of their class brothers as their own. They constantly examine their work with the criteria of "wholly" and "entirely" serving the people.

Ma Li-hua, who suffered from the aftereffects of infantile paralysis, was paralyzed in both legs. After careful medical treatment, the calves of her legs gradually turned from cool to warm, became more solid and had strength. But it was still very difficult for her to stand up.

When this poor peasant daughter came to the hospital the sixth time for treatment, lying in bed, she said to a nurse: "The children who came at the same time as I for treatment can run now, but I can't even walk! How am I to follow Chairman Mao in making revolution?"

The nurse was sleepless that night thinking over what Ma Li-hua had said. "Following Chairman Mao in making revolution," he thought, expressed the loyalty of the children of the poor and lower-middle peasants to our great leader Chairman Mao and reflected their lofty ideal and desire to serve the revolution wholeheartedly. As a medical worker serving the people, he should help them fulfill their desire as soon as possible.

He examined Ma Lih-hua's case notes and studied Chairman Mao's works with the question in mind of how to help the patient walk again. He found that he had paid attention only to those of her symptoms that were common to other patients and not to the peculiarity of her case. This showed, he thought, he still did not truly serve the people "wholly" and "entirely." Seeing the mistake and having raised his political consciousness, he and his comrades carefully studied Chairman Mao's instruction meticulously: "In studying any complex process in which there are two or more contradictions, we must devote every effort to finding its principal contradiction. Once this principal contradiction is grasped, all problems can be readily solved."

With this instruction of Chairman Mao's as their guide to action, they re-studied and analyzed Ma Li-hua's case, summed up the experience gained in the first stage of her treatment, and discovered why she could not walk. Given further treatment, Ma Li-hua eventually regained the ability to walk.

Following the teaching of our great leader Chairman Mao: "We should be modest and prudent, guard against arrogance and rashness, and serve the Chinese people heart and soul....", the medical workers of the hospital today are making constant efforts to sum up their experience and are advancing courageously with strides mightier than ever along the line in medical and health work pointed out by Chairman Mao.

* * *

Using Chairman Mao's Philosophic Concepts To Overcome an "Incurable Disease"

by
Hospital No. 208 of the Chinese People's Liberation Army

(Peking Jen-min Jih-pao March 19, 1970)

There Is No Absolutely "Incurable Disease"

The aftereffects of infantile paralysis, a fairly common disease, have long been adjudged "incurable" by bourgeois medical "authorities" at home and abroad. In some foreign medical books, this is written: This kind of disease is caused by the invasion of viruses into the human body that damage the motor nerve cells of the front part of the spinal cord and lead to the paralysis of a limb. The limb will be disabled for life if it is not rehabilitated within two years.

Are the aftereffects of infantile paralysis after all "incurable"? With this question in mind we studied again and again Chairman Mao's works of philosophy. Chairman Mao teaches: "The movement of change in the world of objective reality is never-ending and so is man's cognition of truth through practice." Chairman Mao's great teaching makes us understand that there are things that we do not yet know, but that there are no unknowable things; there are diseases that, on account of the specific conditions, as yet cannot be cured, but there are no absolutely incurable diseases. We cannot yet cure some diseases because we still do not understand them and we have not found the ways to cure them. It is a metaphysical approach to regard the aftereffects of infantile paralysis as "incurable."

Applying the materialist dialectical viewpoint, we made an all-round and systematic analysis of the aftereffects of infantile paralysis. We maintain that in the overwhelming majority of cases, some of the damaged motor nerve cells have not been completely destroyed. Even though part of the motor nerve cells may be dead, yet the nervous system as a whole and the greater part of the nerve cells are still alive. A limb of a patient may be paralyzed, but most of his body is still healthy. The part and the whole are interconnected, affect each other and condition each other. While it is true that the part can affect the whole, it is the more true that the whole influences the part. Consequently, so long as we adopt an effective method of treatment to arouse and bring into full play the functioning of the normal motor nerve cells and to restore function to those motor nerve cells that were not completely destroyed--and on top of this, the role of the spiritual factor is brought into play--it is entirely possible to restore function to the paralyzed limb to varying degrees.

Based on this understanding and in line with Chairman Mao's teaching that "if you want knowledge, you must take part in the practice of changing reality," we tried to deal with the aftereffects of infantile paralysis with acupuncture. By way of practice, we have come to understand that although the use of ordinary acupuncture to treat this kind of disease is useful to some extent, yet its usefulness cannot be sustained or consolidated.

Ordinary acupuncture gives rise to a short change showing that the paralyzed limb has been stimulated to some extent, but such stimulation is not enough to bring about a qualitative change to the paralyzed part. To solve this question, the degree of stimulation must be intensified. Gathering ourselves together, we continued with our experiments. After repeated practice, we worked out a method of "treatment by stimulating spots." Applying this method in clinical practice, we have gained rather good results.

Relying on invincible Mao Tsetung thought, we have thus paved the way to treating the aftereffects of infantile paralysis and smashed with facts the fallacy that the aftereffects of infantile paralysis are "incurable."

Making Concrete Analysis of Concrete Cases, Resolving Different Contradictions by Different Methods

By using the method "of stimulating spots" to treat the aftereffects of infantile paralysis, we found it of varying degrees of effectiveness for most patients. In the case of a few patients, however, the method yielded no clearcut result and was even ineffective after a long course of treatment. Theirs became "long-standing, big and difficult" cases.

With this question in mind, we once again studied repeatedly Chairman Mao's great teachings on "concrete analysis of concrete conditions" and "qualitatively different contradictions can only be resolved by qualitatively different methods." We recognized that because the motor nerve cells of the spinal cords of the patients were damaged to varying extent, that the damaged part was at variance, that a patient might have a long or short case history, that the methods of treatment adopted after the disease struck and the environments of the patients were at variance--and on top of this, the age, physical and mental conditions of the patients were also at variance--the symptoms of such patients varied a thousand and one ways. The universality as well as the particularity of contradiction is therefore found in every case. Only by analyzing the "long-standing, big and difficult" cases concretely, studying the particularity of their contradictions carefully and grasping the special laws governing them can we find methods of cure.

According to clinical manifestations, we have preliminarily divided the aftereffects of infantile paralysis into three categories: flaccidity of the muslces, permanent contraction of muscles, and mixed cases, categorized as light, medium or serious. We analyzed each case concretely, gave each case suitable treatment, and rapidly achieved good results in the treatment of the disease.

There was a patient of the medium mixed type. His right lower limb had been paralyzed and the right foot seriously distorted for five years. Various muscles of the diseased limb were flaccid and others contracted. The first two treatments we gave him achieved little. Later, following Chairman Mao's teaching that "in studying the particularity of any kind

of contradiction...we must not be subjective and arbitrary but must analyze it concretely. Without concrete analysis there can be no knowledge of the particularity of any contradiction," we made an all-round study and analysis of his symptons. In general, patients with distortion of the foot fall into three main categories: the foot turns inward, the foot turns outward and there is drop foot. It was discovered, however, that his right foot had turned backward 180 degrees with the sole turned upward and the top of the foot touching the ground and growing a thick callus the size of an egg due to friction. He had great difficulty in walking. The distortion of his foot had its own characteristics. The first two treatments were ineffective because we had not concretely analyzed the special features of his case and had used the usual treatment for distortion of the foot. Therefore, while treating muscle flaccidity and contraction, we immobilized the foot so as to change his original walking pattern and consolidate the effects of the treatment. After several courses of treatment, the normal functioning of his lower limb was basically restored, and the serious distortion of his right foot was set right.

Grasp Principal Contradiction in Treatment, Concentrate Forces To Wage War of Annihilation

The aftereffects of infantile paralysis are fairly complicated. A key problem in the treatment is the ability to grasp the principal contradiction and concentrate forces to resolve it.

Early this year, we admitted a patient, daughter of a worker, who had suffered from serious multiple paralysis. Where should we start treating her? At the time, our attention was caught by her knee that was turned around, and we thought that this was the most important cause of her inability to stand up and walk. Therefore, we principally treated her turned knee, and the paralyzed muscles at her waist and buttocks. After two courses of treatment, her two legs were straighter than in the past, but she still was unable to stand up and soon afterward, her two legs were bent as before. What was the cause?

The great leader Chairman Mao taught us: "In studying any complex process in which there are two or more contradictions, we must devote every effort to finding its principal contradiction. Once this principal contradiction is grasped, all problems can be readily solved." In accordance with Chairman Mao's teaching, we carefully analyzed and studied her symptoms.

Everybody knows that according to the laws governing the movement of the limbs of a normal person, the movement of the upper limbs depends principally on the shoulders impelling the upper arms and hence the forearms, while the movement of the lower limbs depends principally on the hips impelling the thighs and hence the shanks, and the waist is closely linked with the hips. Because of this, we took as the principal contradiction atrophy of the muslces of the buttocks and the flaccidity of the muscles actuating the hip joint. In accordance with Chairman Mao's teaching on concentrating armed forces to wage a war of annihilation, we therefore mapped out afresh the method of treatment. We first devoted our efforts to solving

the problem of the tenile force of the muslces actuating the hip joint. This gave the hip joint powerful support and the result was very effective. She could stand up and walk without crutches. However, because the muscle of the lower back was paralyzed and without strength, her ability to stand and walk on an even keel was still affected.

Chairman Mao's teaching that the principal contradiction and the secondary contradiction can change places in certain conditions enabled us to understand that after basically solving the principal contradiction of muscle flaccidity in the region of the hip joint, paralysis of the muscle of the lower back became the principal contradiction. We concentrated our efforts on treating the paralysis of the muscle of the lower back, and at the same time we made some efforts to treat atrophy of the muscle of the buttocks and the knee which had been turned around, thus basically solving the problem of the lower back. Finally, we devoted our whole effort to dealing with the turned knee and the drop foot and to consolidating the treatment of the lower back, thus basically correcting the problems of turned knee and drop foot. In the end, this girl was able to walk to school without crutches.

In the practice of treatment, we come to understand deeply that we must follow Chairman Mao's teaching and be good at grasping the principal contradiction before we can cure diseases and score good results. If treatment were wantonly given without distinguishing what is primary from what is secondary we nct only would fail to get good result but also would bring unnecessary pain to the patients.

Pay Attention to External Causes, Lay Greater Emphasis on Internal Causes and Give Full Play to Subjective Initiative of Patient

Chairman Mao teaches us: "Materialist dialectics holds that external causes are the condition of change and internal causes are the basis of change, and that external causes become operative through internal causes. The condition of medical treatment can play only a certain role in promoting the development of the contradictions within the patient's organism. The spiritual factor of the patient himself and the tempering of its functioning play the most direct role in improving his organism. Consequently, in the course of treatment, it is necessary to bring the patient's subjective initiative into play, so that he may think in terms of "giving first consideration to self," and take the "offensive" against the disease, thus giving full play to the role of internal causes in medical treatment.

One patient from a poor peasant family had suffered from the aftereffects of infantile paralysis for 15 years, and both lower limbs were badly paralyzed. He could neither stand up nor walk and could get about only by crawling. After he was admitted into hospital, we resolved with the deep feelings of the proletariat to make him stand up and follow Chairman Mao to make revolution. We exerted very great effort in giving him several courses of treatment, and his right leg showed remarkable improvement, thus creating conditions for him to stand up and exercise his legs. However, the moment he stood up, his two legs trembled and his head was covered with sweat. He put the crutches aside and went on crawling.

In accordance with Chairman Mao's great teaching that "the fundamental cause of the development of a thing is not external but internal; it lies in the contradictoriness within the thing," we learned through analysis that the main reason this patient could not stand up was that he lacked the courage and confidence to keep on exercising his legs. We had exerted ourselves only in giving him material treatment but had done nothing to arouse his objective initiative. Therefore, we studied Chairman Mao's works, recalled the past bitterness and compared it with the present happiness and launched revolutionary mass criticism together with him, thus heightening his confidence in curing his disease and exercising his legs for the revolution. He made this pledge: "I must follow Chairman Mao's teaching of 'fearing neither hardship nor death' and I'll exercise my legs, no matter what the pain, with revolutionary tenacity. I'll stand up and follow Chairman Mao in making revolution all my life." Being imbued with the idea of getting well for the revolution and of curing the disease with revolutionary spirit, he kept exercising his legs with the help of the crutches day after day, no matter what the pain. This ceaselessly brought new changes within his organism. His legs became fuller and stronger, and he was finally strong enough to stand up.

By way of this episode, we came to understand further that while it is necessary to pay great attention to the role of the external causes at the time of giving treatment and endeavor to give accurate treatment without delay, it is even more necessary to pay attention to the role of the internal causes, to bring the patient's subjective initiative into play, to strengthen the power of resistance within the body, to make the contradiction turn for the better and hence to attain the object of overcoming the disease.

Over the past year or more, our course of studying the treatment of the aftereffects of infantile paralysis has been one of making living study and application of Chairman Mao's philosophic concepts. It is the invincible Mao Tsetung thought that gives us wisdom and strength to cure the aftereffects of infantile paralysis. We are determined to make a greater success of the living study and application of Chairman Mao's brilliant philosophic concepts in the practice of the struggle from now on, do a better job in transforming the subjective world simultaneously with transforming the objective world, and make new contributions to the people.

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Chinese Army Doctor Cures After-Effects of Infantile Paralysis

(NCNA-English Changchun, Apr. 17, 1970)

Guided by Chairman Mao's great teaching "Serve the people wholeheartedly," Communist Party member Chen Meng-yu, head of the Department of Physiotherapy in an army hospital, has conscientiously studied Chairman Mao's works, made great efforts to improve his skill and thus succeeded in curing many cases of the after-effects of infantile paralysis. The revolutionary people praise him as a "red pace-setter in curing the after-effects of infantile paralysis."

The after-effects of this disease has all along been regarded by bourgeois medical "authorities" and "specialists" at home and abroad as an "insurmountable difficulty" in medical science and as "incurable."

So that he might do something for the victims, Doctor Chen Meng-yu turned to this teaching which Chairman Mao wrote long ago: "These battalions of ours are wholly dedicated to the liberation of the people and work entirely in the people's interests." Some of the sufferers from the after-effects of infantile paralysis could not get any treatment because of the counter-revolutionary revisionist line pushed by the renegade, hidden traitor and scab Liu Shao-ch'i in medical and health work.

With profound proletarian feelings, Doctor Chen Meng-yu carried out investigations among the masses, studied the case histories of patients and familiarized himself with the history of the struggle between the two lines in medical and health work.

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As he heard the victims and their families condemn the counter-revolutionary revisionist line in medical and health work, Chen Meng-yu boiled with indignation and pledged that he would make a break-through in treatment. He said: "We'll cure this affliction which is considered 'incurable' and sweep the 'insurmountable obstacles' out of our way so that the children of the working people may grow up sound in body and be able to follow our great leader Chairman Mao in making the revolution." The Doctor made this vow to the hospital Party committee: "We'll keep on working hard until we succeed in curing the after-effects of infantile paralysis."

Chen Meng-yu led other medical workers in conscientiously studying Chairman Mao's great teaching that people "should dare to think, dare to speak and dare to act, should be boldly creative, and must not be intimidated by big names and authorities." They tried to find an effective treatment with acupuncture. But the bourgeois "specialists" and "authorities" and a handful of class enemies created a bad atmosphere in an attempt to sabotage the work. However, Chen Meng-yu stood at the forefront of the struggle and got

other medical workers to study again Chairman Mao's teaching "never forget class struggle." He said to them: "The class enemies are challenging us. We must succeed. We must defend Chairman Mao's line in medical and health work with our actions so as to win honor for Chairman Mao and for the working people."

Chen Meng-yu joined other medical workers in studying Chairman Mao's brilliant three constantly-read articles--"Serve the People," "In Memory of Norman Bethune" and "The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains"--his "On Contradiction" and "On Practice." In addition, they learned from other army doctors and nurses with practical experience. They went on giving treatment while improving their skills.

Very late one night Chen Meng-yu was still eagerly studying Chairman Mao's works. Inspired by his teaching "The sole purpose of this army is to stand firmly with the Chinese people and to serve them wholeheartedly," Chen Meng-yu practiced needling on his own legs, although he had severe cold. So that he might experience the sensations made by the needles, he inserted twelve of them, one by one, into his legs. But he did not feel that the stimulus was strong enough and he did not achieve the optimum effects. So he took up the long needle used for lumbar puncture and, with the determination that he would take any risk himself rather than making one mistake on a class brother, he inserted it at the most sensitive acupuncture point. The pain was acute and his body broke out in a cold sweat. Chen Meng-yu dried himself with a towel. Looking at the portrait of Chairman Mao, he was imbued with infinite courage and strength. He plunged the needle in deeper and twirled it round vigorously so that he had sharp sensations of soreness, numbness, distension and heaviness. This practice on his own body enabled him to get the optimum effects.

Next morning Chen Meng-yu described his sensations to the other comrades. All of them immediately began to practice on their own bodies.

After experimenting for a certain period, guided by Mao Tsetung thought and inspired by the advanced experience of other units, Chen Meng-yu and other comrades together discovered some new acupuncture points and worked out a new method of treatment. The hospital Party committee gave them full support and decided to use the new treatment in clinical practice.

Chen Meng-yu and other comrades used it to give the first treatment to Chou Li-ping whose legs had been paralyzed for seven years. Twelve days later Chou Li-ping's legs became warm, were not so shrivelled and she could move them. When she came for the fourth treatment she was able to walk without crutches. With tears in his eyes, her father, veteran worker Chou Chien-fu, said: "Chairman Mao saved me from the depths of suffering, and once again Chairman Mao has brought my child happiness!" Every comrade there tried to outdo the other in holding the girl up, shouting over and over: "Long live Chairman Mao! Long live Chairman Mao!"

Treatment for the after-effects was effective in more than 90 per cent of the cases. Patients came from all over China. Chen Meng-yu led the comrades in giving full play to the revolutionary spirit of fearing

neither hardship nor death and working hard day and night. Many suffering from the after-effects of the disease strode out of the hospital after being treated. Confronted by his success, Chen Meng-yu said: "We could not cure the after-effects of infantile paralysis at first, but now we have succeeded in getting rid of them. But this is only the first step in a long march of ten thousand li!"

Liu Li-min's lower limbs were paralyzed. Responding to treatment, the child's shrivelled lower limbs, instead of being cold, became warm and got bigger. Though the patient was able to walk on crutches, when she stood up she was unsteady and every step required painstaking effort.

Chen Meng-yu led the other comrades in studying Chairman Mao's teaching again and again: "Man has constantly to sum up experience and go on discovering, inventing, creating and advancing. Ideas of stagnation, pessimism, inertia and complacency are all wrong."

Following this teaching of Chairman Mao's, Chen Meng-yu and the other comrades made repeated examinations of Liu Li-min. They found that the key to her inability to move her lower limbs simply lay in the dislocation of her hip joints. This knotty problem was precisely that which had often come up and had remained unsolved. All of them said: "To surmount the difficulty of curing the after-effects of infantile paralysis is a new starting point for continuing the revolution!"

A battle against paralysis and deformity began. After repeated experiments Chen Meng-yu and his comrades devised a new method of treatment. They worked on Liu Li-min accordingly, attaining remarkable results. Liu Li-min was able to walk over to a portrait of Chairman Mao and, with tears welling up, said: "The arch renegade Liu Shao-ch'i plagued me; it is our great leader Chairman Mao who has saved me. When I grow up, I'll serve the people heart and soul."

Chen Meng-yu once was doing an experiment requiring the injection of a Chinese medicine he had made himself in the center of the spine, the focal point of the network of nerves controlling the limbs. Great risk was involved. If it was not done well, it might lead to paralysis and even death. Never one to shun danger in making revolution, Chen Meng-yu told Army Doctor Sun Li-yun: "We'are still far from solving every difficult problem. Let us scale a new height!" He asked the Army Doctor to do the injection on his own spine. Deeply moved, the doctor said: "It's dangerous. I can't do it. You better do it on mine." But Chen Meng-yu refused to yield, and after much persuasion, he succeeded in getting the Army Doctor to make the injection. Chen Meng-yu was sweating all over from the sharp pain. Reciting Chairman Mao's teaching "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory," he urged Sun Li-yun to continue. When the experiment was over, he joyfully told his comrades: "Fine! I think there's a good chance!" Sun Li-yun and the others were greatly moved and said: "These two hours served as an instructive lesson. You haven't just showed us how to tackle a technical problem. More important, you've showed us how to revolutionize our thinking."

In this way, Chen Meng-yu led his comrades in solving many key problems with regard to curing the after-effects of infantile paralysis, thereby safeguarding Chairman Mao's revolutionary line by his concrete action.

The leading bodies of the Shenyang units of the People's Liberation Army recently conferred the order of merit, first class, on Chen Meng-yu and called on all commanders and fighters to emulate him.

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III. The Blind, Deaf-Mutes, Paralytics

Northeast China Deaf and Dumb Hospital Serves People Heart and Soul

(NCNA-English Shenyang, Feb. 14, 1969)

A temporary deaf and dumb hospital in Northeast China run by a People's Liberation Army unit has treated several thousand deaf-mutes and the condition of 86 percent has improved in the past few months, thereby performing a feat in medical history.

There are neither "famous" doctors nor modern equipment in the hospital. It has succeeded in achieving this by lively applying the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung and by giving full play to the revolutionary spirit of daring to think and to do on the part of the medical workers of the unit's health center.

The unit's health center successfully cured many local deaf-mutes by acupuncture treatment last winter. As the news spread, deaf and dumb people came from all corners of the country. The unit decided to organize a temporary hospital with the health section as the basis in order to treat more deaf and dumb people. For its wholehearted service to the deaf and dumb class brothers and sisters, people all praise the new-type hospital as being in accordance with Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line in medical and health work.

The hospital has no top-heavy administration and the medical personnel are all trained by the army itself. There is no registration department but a reception center with a staff of eight who are always ready, whatever time of day or night or whatever the weather, to go to the railway station to meet new patients.

It was snowing hard one evening when the train pulled into the station. As the patients and the relatives accompanying them alighted, they wondered how they would get to the army unit and where they would find somewhere to stay, but almost immediately comrades from the hospital came toward them and greeted them warmly. They took charge of the children and led the old people to a bus. Many of the patients and their relatives were moved to tears. Some grasped the fighters by the hand and said: "Your close concern for us poor and lower-middle peasants shows the truth of the saying, dear are our parents, but dearer still is Chairman Mao to us. The People's Liberation Army educated by Chairman Mao is really good."

The following instance shows how the medical workers treat the patients with a great sense of responsibility, in line with Chairman Mao's teaching, "Serve the people wholeheartedly."

One worker coming from Hangchow last year gave up hope after failing to respond to 3 courses of treatment. Without telling anyone, he bought a ticket home. When army surgeon Hu Jung-shan felt very sorry when he learned of this. He got the rest of the group which was treating the patient to study Chairman Mao's teachings on serving the people "wholly" and "entirely." They all pledged themselves to do everything possible for the

patient. Hu Jung-shan said: "Although we cannot guarantee a 100 percent cure, we must make sure our sense of responsibility toward the people is 100 per cent." The comrades carried out many experiments on themselves and kept improving the plans for treatment. They finally succeeded in restoring the worker's power of hearing and he shouted for the first time in his life: "Long live Chairman Mao!"

"We must make sure our sense of responsibility toward the people is 100 percent" has since been taken up as a militant slogan by all the medical staff.

Cheng Huan-chang, a fifty-year-old worker, who became deaf after an attack of measles when he was a baby, came for treatment last November. He had visited a number of "well-known" doctors in the big cities but all of them had pronounced him "incurable" because his eardrum was damaged.

A month's treatment at the hospital had also produced no results. Li Chih-kuei, the medical worker in charge of Cheng Huan-chang's treatment, began to doubt that a cure was possible for a patient of this age. He could not sleep that night, reminding himself of Chairman Mao's teachings on "wholly" and "entirely" serving the people and thinking of the way the old worker had suffered in the old society.

Cheng Huan-chang had been treated as a beast of burden in the old days, toiling under the whips of the Japanese aggressors and the sticks of the landlords and capitalists. He was delivered from the darkness and saw the bright daylight only when his area was liberated. In the autumn of 1957, Chairman Mao visited the factory where Cheng Huan-chang worked. When he saw our respected and beloved great leader Chairman Mao, Cheng Huan-chang was overwhelmed with joy and wanted, as he had never wanted all his life, to shout at the top of his voice: "Long live Chairman Mao." But he could not utter a word. Recalling all this, Li Chih-kuei resolved to conquer the old worker's "incurable" condition in the spirit of "the foolish old man who removed the mountains" that Chairman Mao described in one of his three constantly read articles. Li Chih-kuei lost his appetite and lay awake night after night wrestling with the problem. He experimented on his own body, putting the acupuncture needles in deeper and deeper. His patient efforts finally showed results and the old worker, who had been deaf and dumb for half century, regained to a large extent his power of hearing. Tears came to his eyes when, for the first time in his life, he joined in the cheers of: "Long live Chairman Mao!"

The hospital employs no orderlies and does not provide any of the customary general services. But, because of its medical workers' enthusiasm for serving the patients, it distinguishes itself both in medical treatment and in its reception of patients.

Lumberjack Liu Ting-hao brought his child Liu Heng-lan to the army unit for treatment. As he had to return to his work, he put his child in the care of medical assistant Lu Chi-chien. The boy had lost his hearing

completely and could not speak. He was also emotionally disturbed and incontinent as a result. Every time he was given acupuncture treatment, he went into a tantrum. But Lu was always patient and cared for the boy as if he were his younger brother.

He was kept busy throughout the day, treating his patients and drying Liu Heng-lan's wet bedding.

This patience and care touched Liu Heng-lan deeply. He wrote in his diary: "I must follow Chairman Mao's teachings" and "learn from the PLA uncles." Gradually, he began to cooperate with Lu Chi-chien and soon the treatment produced results. Liu Heng-lan was able to hear and speak again and he was no longer incontinent.

The way in which the hospital serves the people "wholly" and "entirely" has deeply impressed the local inhabitants. Many of them volunteer their services to help the patients. Chang Ming-shan, a cook at a coalmining school, was at home recovering after a wrist injury when he heard that the PLA unit was going to borrow some empty rooms in the school to accommodate some of their patients. He immediately went over and offered to work in the kitchen. The PLA comrades advised him to get well first, but he replied: "You PLA comrades risk your lives experimenting on yourselves with acupuncture. My injury is nothing compared with that." Thus Chang Ming-shan cooked for the deaf-mutes every day, getting up early and going to bed late.

An old brickyard worker Li Shou-wu goes around every day after work and on Sundays to give the patients free haircuts, often staying there very late. He has also organized his children and several little Red Guards into a "voluntary service group" to serve the deaf-mutes, put on performances propagating Mao Tsetung thought.

In order that deaf and dumb hospitals might be established all over the country and that deaf-mutes might have treatment locally, the comrades at the hospital have set up a "Mao Tsetung thought acupuncture study class," recruiting promising students from among the patients and their relatives. The comrades take the wards as their classrooms, try the needles on their own bodies and enthusiastically teach the students how to cure deafness and common diseases. As the patients and their relatives and visitors to the hospital leave, group by group, they carry home with them what they have learnt. Letters from more than ten places already report many successful cures.

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Chinese PLA Medical Worker Cures Paralytics

(NCNA-English Tsinan, March 1, 1969)

Guided by the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung, Chinese People's Liberation Army medical worker Sung Pei-liang has discovered a new way of curing paralysis by acupuncture. Thirty-five paralytics have regained their ability to walk and some have taken part in productive labor after treatment.

Following the great leader Chairman Mao's instruction "the People's Liberation Army should help the broad masses of the left," Sung Pei-liang, together with a PLA unit helping agriculture, arrived at the Meichiachaitzu production brigade of the Liuhu People's Commune in Kwangjao hsien, Shantung province, East China, in January 1967. While helping agriculture, he gave medical treatment to poor and lower-middle peasants in the fields and at their homes. With him on his rounds were Chairman Mao's works and a medicine kit.

Sung Pei-liang eagerly sought out a paralytic poor peasant woman, Wei Tung-hsiu, as soon as he learned that she had been bedridden for more than two years. He found her lying in bed, one side of her body paralyzed. Grateful to see a PLA man arrive to give her mother medical treatment, the daughter gave him a detailed account of the case and how a "famous" doctor had judged her to be "incurable." When the old woman became paralyzed in Summer 1965, the daughter had pulled a cart to get her to a big hospital 25 kilometers away. But, because of the poisonous influence of the counter-revolutionary revisionist line in medical and health work pushed by the renegade, traitor and scab Liu Shao-ch'i, doctors were unwilling to serve the poor and lower-middle peasants then. One "famous" doctor made a cursory and sloppy examination, affirming that the case was incurable and no effective treatment had as yet been noted in medical books. Mother and daughter were then compelled to leave the hospital in tears.

Upon hearing the poor peasant's daughter's accusation against the counter-revolutionary revisionist line of Liu Shao-ch'i, Sung Pei-liang said: "I am a People's Liberation Army fighter. I always bear in my mind Chairman Mao's teaching 'to serve the people wholeheartedly.' Guided by Mao Tsetung thought, I will search for a method to cure paralysis and find a way for your mother to stand up and contribute to socialist construction."

With profound proletarian feelings, he took out silver needles and began giving the poor peasant woman acupuncture treatment based on what he had learned from books on the subject. Seven times he used the needles, but without effect. Asking himself what the reason for this was, he studied Chairman Mao's works. "If you want knowledge, you must take part in the practice of changing reality. If you want to know the taste of a pear, you must change the pear by eating it yourself. ... All genuine knowledge originates in direct experience." This teaching of Chairman Mao's enlightened him. He decided to use the needles on himself to get practical knowledge for

curing the woman's disease. He did acupuncture on his own body every evening, reciting this quotation from Chairman Mao: "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory" whenever he felt pain. After repeated experiments, he finally found a new way of curing paralysis.

Applying the method he discovered, Sung Pei-liang used the needles twenty-three times and cured the patient. As soon as she got up from bed, she walked over to a portrait of Chairman Mao and with tears of happiness in her eyes, she shouted in an excited voice: "Long live Chairman Mao!"

The news of the curing of a paralytic spread quickly. More and more people came to Sung Pei-liang for treatment, and his work grew heavy. But every day he treated each patient who came, working through the night sometimes. He refused to go back to his living quarters for a rest or have his meals until he had finished caring for his patients.

Just as Sung Pei-liang was going to bed very early one morning after having had a strenuous two days and one night, a paralytic girl was brought to him for treatment. Her lower legs had been paralyzed for eleven years. Tired as he was, he quickly got up and carefully examined and treated the girl. He studied her case with his colleagues and, after several acupuncture treatments, the girl was able to stand up and walk. She was overjoyed and sang aloud the song in praise of Chairman Mao: "The heavens are great, the earth is great, but they can't compare with the greatness of what the Party has done for the people. Dear as are father and mother, Chairman Mao is dearer." Over and over, she cheered: "Long live Chairman Mao! A long, long life to him!"

By relying on the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung, PLA medical worker Sung Pei-liang has given more than 25,000 treatments to poor and lower-middle peasants in the past two years or so. He has cured a total of 35 paralytics and 153 deaf-mutes, as well as many patients of common diseases.

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Mao Tsetung Thought Gives New Life to the Blind, Deaf-Mutes and Paralyzed

(NCNA-English Peking, March 23, 1969)

A medical team of a Chinese People's Liberation Army unit has used acupuncture to treat successfully more than 1,000 blind, deaf-mute or paralyzed patients declared "incurable" by bourgeois "authorities." This has once again showed the inexhaustible power of Mao Tsetung thought.

In response to Chairman Mao's great call "in medical and health work, put the stress on the rural areas," the medical team went to the countryside in March 1967 to propagate Mao Tsetung thought and give medical treatment.

The medical workers saw that as a result of the counterrevolutionary revisionist line in medical and health work pushed by the renegade Liu Shao-ch'i, many poor and lower-middle peasants could not get medical treatment when they were ill. They realized all the more the brilliance and correctness of Chairman Mao's teachings. They also recognized that the focus of the struggle between the proletarian revolutionary line and the bourgeois reactionary line was a question of whom to serve. They resolved to defend Chairman Mao's revolutionary line with their actions.

In order to lighten the financial burden on the poor and lower-middle peasants, the medical team decided to use needle treatment.

Apart from one physician, the medical team has six health workers, who are all only a little over twenty years old. These sons of poor and lower-middle peasants had only a few years' schooling and received only some basic training in medicine after their enlistment. They had never studied acupuncture.

But they have boundless loyalty to Chairman Mao and strong class feelings for the poor and lower-middle peasants. Determined to serve the people "wholly" and "entirely" in accordance with Chairman Mao's teachings, they put forth the slogan "We will suffer pains for the happiness of our class brothers."

They made it a rule that if they were not certain of success, they would not insert a needle. They tried the needles on themselves or on each other based on the diagram of acupuncture points for different diseases. Soon they mastered the acupuncture techniques.

Regardless of time and distance, they went to call on the patients and cured a great number of poor and lower-middle peasants of common and recurrent diseases free of charge. When this became known, many patients with complicated case histories came from far and wide to ask for treatment.

The comrades of the medical team were moved when the blind described their longing to see Chairman Mao and the dumb expressing their desire to shout "Long live Chairman Mao!" Although they had no experience in treating the blind and deaf-mute, they remembered Chairman Mao's teaching

"These battalions of ours are wholly dedicated to the liberation of the people and work entirely in the people's interests" and were determined to help their class brothers.

One day, Yu Chung-hsiang, a patient with a secondary cataract, came to the medical team for treatment. Since 1958, he had been to "well-known doctors" and "specialists" in hospitals in several big cities for treatment. Because these bourgeois "authorities" had no class feeling for the laboring people, they irresponsibly treated the patient and Yu Chung-hsiang's eyes became worse, and at last he lost his sight.

After being assigned the task of treating him, Chen Chi-chin searched through data on acupuncture but could find no example of a cataract being removed. Spurred on by the desire to rid his class brother of his anguish, he was determined to blaze a trail. He studied Chairman Mao's teaching, "....If you want knowledge, you must take part in the practice of changing reality. If you want to know the taste of a pear, you must change the pear by eating it yourself." Standing in front of a mirror, he experimented on his own eyes. He inserted the needle beyond a depth of five fen, the limit set by books on acupuncture. As he was doing this, he felt that he might go blind. But this teaching of Chairman Mao's instantly came to mind: "Countless revolutionary martyrs have laid down their lives in the interests of the people, and our hearts are filled with pain as we the living think of them--can there be any personal interest, then, that we would not sacrifice or any error that we would not discard?" He thought of Doctor Bethune, a foreigner who gave his life for the liberation of the Chinese people. Why, he asked himself, could he not sacrifice one of his eyes for a class brother? He made up his mind that even if it cost him his own sight he would restore the patient's eyesight. After dozens of insertions at different depths of the inner corners of his eyes he finally became experienced in inserting the needles in various areas of the eyes. After ten treatments, Yu Chung-hsiang was able to see Chairman Mao's portrait on the wall. The patient jumped up and, with tears in his eyes, cheered in happiness: "Long live Chairman Mao!"

As a result of summing up their experience and creating new experience, the medical team has cured many cases of blindness due to glaucoma, optic atrophy and extreme near-sightedness.

Old poor peasant Sung took his 18-year-old son Sung Hua-ming to the team. The old peasant angrily told of the sorrows that had been brought to the poor and lower-middle peasants by Liu Shao-ch'i's revisionist line. His son had become a mute as a child because he did not get timely treatment after an illness. After that the father took him to the city to see "famous doctors" and spent much of his money, but the "well-known doctors" and the bourgeois "authorities" declared the boy "incurable." Taking the hand of the health worker in his own, the old peasant said with tears in eyes: "I don't care if my son can't say father or mother. What I'm really sorrow about is that he cannot say 'Long live Chairman Mao'. You are kinsmen sent by Chairman Mao. Please think of some way to cure him!" The son bowed before Chairman Mao's portrait, and then gestured to the health worker, asking to cure him.

With profound feelings for their class brothers, the health workers carried out repeated experiments on themselves. Their necks grew swollen and their jaws could not close. But when they felt better they continued with the experiments until they finally found the most effective acupuncture points and depths. After a dozen treatments, Sung Hua-ming was cured, and for the first time in his life, he cheered: "Long live Chairman Mao!"

The comrades in the medical team looked upon the work of medical treatment to workers, poor and lower-middle peasants as a test of their loyalty to Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. Coal miner Chang Li-chung was suddenly stricken with acute inflammation of the spinal cord and was completely paralyzed. Some doctors in the hospital who had been poisoned by the revisionist line gave him a medical check-up. These doctors failed to cure similar patients in the past, so they said: "We can't do anything for you, try another hospital." It was just at this time that the medical team was popularizing new acupuncture treatment there. Someone proposed inviting the medical team to try to cure the patient. As young medical assistant Chen entered the consultation room, he saw a roomful of white-gowned doctors standing there. When the physician-in-charge showed lack of faith in him, young Chen realized that this was a struggle between the two lines. But the veteran coal miner said to young Chen: "Don't be afraid to insert your needles! If you can do it well, I may still serve the people. If you can't, you still can get some experience through me." The worker's words greatly encouraged him.

When he looked up at Chairman Mao's portrait on the wall, he called to mind Chairman Mao's teachings on daring to fight and fearing no difficulties and became even more determined. Though he had never heard of such a disease, he based himself on his experience in curing paralysis and needled Chang Li-chung's right leg three times. Immediately, the patient could move his leg. With added confidence, Chen inserted the needle three times into Chang's left leg. He then told the patient: "Old Chang! Try to stand up and take a few steps." With the help of two others supporting him on each side, Chang Li-chung, stood up and took two steps forward. Grasping young Chen's hands and with tears rolling down his cheeks, the veteran miner looked up at Chairman Mao's portrait and shouted over and over: "Long live Chairman Mao!"

Young Chen's success shook the whole hospital. Some of the medical personnel concluded: "Relying on Mao Tsetung thought, a young health worker can work medical miracles!"

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A Unique Theatrical Performance

(NCNA-English Peking, March 23, 1969)

At a recent Peking theatrical performance, twenty unusual actors and actresses, holding golden sunflowers, dancing with overwhelming enthusiasm and singing songs at the top of their voices, expressed wholehearted praise for our great leader Chairman Mao. Every item on the program won deafening applause from the audience.

Every single one of the performers had been either deaf, dumb, blind or paralyzed a year ago. Deaf-mutes for nearly twenty years sang the song "The East Is Red" in praise of Chairman Mao; those who had been paralyzed or victims of infantile paralysis performed the dance "A Long, Long Life to Chairman Mao"; those who had been blind for many years read out quotations from Chairman Mao.

Every one of the twenty items of songs, dances and other performances by these performers, whose ages ranged from eight to thirty-one, was imbued with their boundless love for and loyalty to the great leader Chairman Mao. A medical team of the Chinese People's Liberation Army sent by their beloved Chairman Mao had treated and cured them and enabled them to perform. Every time they came on stage they held aloft red-covered "Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung," jumped with joy and cheered: "Long live Chairman Mao!" They sang and danced enthusiastically to convey their heartfelt praise for the great leader Chairman Mao and the great thought of Mao Tse-tung. The performance greatly affected the audience, many of whom were moved to tears. Spectators eagerly went up on the stage and gave the performers shiny Chairman Mao badges.

These unique performers are sons and daughters of workers and poor and lower-middle peasants. As a result of the counterrevolutionary revisionist line pushed by the arch renegade Liu Shao-ch'i in medical and health work, some of them had become handicapped in childhood for lack of timely treatment, while others were born deaf and dumb. All had been deemed "incurable" by bourgeois "famous doctors" and "specialists."

However, the medical team of unit 3225 of the PLA, by relying on the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung, gave them acupuncture treatment and succeeded in restoring their ability to hear, see, speak and move. Consisting of only one army doctor and six medical assistants, this team has in the last two years cured more than one thousand patients including deaf-mutes and those suffering from blindness, paralysis or infantile paralysis and other difficult ailments.

To express their enormous gratitude to the great leader Chairman Mao, representatives of those cured patients formed an art propaganda team in November of 1968 to spread Mao Tsetung thought. They set up a repertoire based on their own experiences. They did their best to praise and eulogize Mao Tsetung thought and Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, which has saved them from misery, and conveyed their profound feelings in the most beautiful language and dance movements. At the same time they

denounced the counterrevolutionary revisionist line pushed by Liu Shao-ch'i which ruined their health. All in all, they have given over 70 performances in Northeast China and in Peking, and have won the enthusiastic response of the worker, peasant and soldier masses.

A man of medium build who had been paralyzed for four years, Li Chao-yu, was overwhelmed with excitement when he got on the stage. Waving "Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung," he jumped with joy and cheered "Long live Chairman Mao!" for at least a minute. He told the audience: "I owe my second life to Chairman Mao. No language in the world can express fully my gratitude to our dear and respected Chairman Mao." He then did a dance in praise of the great leader Chairman Mao. In rhythm with music provided by the band of the art team, his hands went through a series of swift movements and his legs moved quickly and forcefully while his body bent forward and backward. His movements gave no sign that he had once been a paralytic, and that his limbs had been stiff.

Thirty-one-year-old Li Chao-yu, an electrician in the Hungwei Coal Mine in Fushun, was stricken with cerebral embolism in 1963, and his whole body became paralyzed. His case was said to be "incurable" by the biggest hospital in Fushun, which was then dominated by Liu Shao-ch'i's counterrevolutionary revisionist line in medicine--a line that served only a handful of bourgeois elements and overlords in the urban centers. He was thrown out of the hospital.

Members of the medical team of unit 3225 were enraged when they learned of Li Chao-yu's case as they arrived in Fushun at the end of 1967. They resolved to cure him in order to defend Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and to show their overwhelming hatred for Liu Shao-ch'i's counter-revolutionary revisionist line.

The medical team members were young people with only a year's medical training. Acting on Chairman Mao's teaching of serving the people "wholly" and "entirely", they experimented on their own limbs to find out the most effective acupuncture points and depths of insertion. Their arms and thighs soon became swollen, but the young medical workers refused to yield and went on with their experiments while reciting Chairman Mao's teaching: "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory." They had only one thought in mind: they were willing to sacrifice their own limbs if it meant curing a class brother and defending Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. The patient, whose arms and legs had been paralyzed for more than four years, was able to stand, walk and work again after two months of acupuncture treatment.

20-year-old Wang Chin-fang, who had been deaf and dumb, came on stage and sang three songs in praise of the great leader Chairman Mao. It was the medical workers of the People's Liberation Army founded by Chairman Mao who restored the hearing and speech of this worker's son.

Wang Chin-fang was brought to the army medical team by his father in February, 1968. The father told comrades of the medical team: "I'm a veteran worker who slaved many years for the capitalists in the old society. I thank Chairman Mao for bringing emancipation to us. But my son who is so big now can't even say 'Long live Chairman Mao!'"

The father continued, "I don't feel sad if he can't call me 'father.' What grieves me is that he can't say 'Long live Chairman Mao!'"

Armed with Mao Tsetung thought, the army medical workers understood the profound proletarian class feelings the working class has for our great leader. After experimenting on themselves, they discovered a new acupuncture point which gives much better results in curing the deaf and dumb than the previous point. After thirty-five days of treatment, Wang Chin-fang, who had been deaf and dumb since childhood, shouted for the first time in his life: "Long live Chairman Mao!"--words which had been buried deep in his heart.

Five lively light-footed girls came on stage dancing to gay music. First singing and then dancing, their moving voices and skillful dancing drew stormy applause from the audience. No one could imagine that these girls were almost blind a year ago. The youngest strode to the front of the stage and, speaking to the enraptured audience, condemned Liu Shao-ch'i's counterrevolutionary revisionist line which had ruined her eyesight.

"My name is Chang Wu-yi," she began. "I'm fourteen and a middle-school student. Poisoned by 'the marks first,' 'seeking fame' and other revisionist trash of Liu Shao-ch'i, I pored over books all day long, and at night I read under the blanket by flash light. I developed optic atrophy and couldn't see anything even less than one meter away. The bourgeois 'famous doctors' and 'experts' in a number of big hospitals in Shenyang and Peking said that my condition was 'incurable.'"

She continued: "It was Chairman Mao who sent the dear Liberation Army personnel to help me. Guided by Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in medical and health work, they cured me in two months. I can again see the kindly face of Chairman Mao. Now that my eyesight has been restored I will study Chairman Mao's works all my life and march forward forever along the revolutionary path charted by our great leader."

The youngest members of the propaganda team are Pang Te-wei, an eight-year-old boy, and Li Ching-hsiang, a nine-year-old girl. The boy contracted cataracts and lost his sight when he was five. The girl was a polio victim at the age of four and her legs were paralyzed. The dance they did to express their boundless loyalty to Chairman Mao was greeted warmly by the audience. Many spectators took the Chairman Mao badges they were wearing and hurried up to the stage to pin them on the young performers' chests. Moved to tears, some spectators took the boy and girl in their arms, and with the youngsters shouted together at the top of their voices: "Long live Chairman Mao! A long, long life to him!"

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PLA Medical Worker Makes New Contributions Under Guidance of Mao Tsetung Thought

(NCNA-English, Peking, May 25, 1969)

A recent article in Peking papers by a medical assistant of a People's Liberation Army unit describes his successes in treating workers, poor and lower-middle peasants and other working people under the guidance of the invincible Mao Tsetung thought.

The article, written by Comrade Chao Pu-yu, is entitled: "Be A Revolutionary Medical Fighter Boundlessly Loyal to Chairman Mao."

Excerpts follow:

Fight To Defend Chairman Mao's Revolutionary Line in Medical Work

I joined the army in March, 1966. Altogether I had four years of schooling in my native village and after I joined the army, I was assigned to be a medical assistant.

In February of 1968, I joined a medical team which disseminates Mao Tsetung thought while giving treatment to workers and poor and lower-middle peasants. In the beginning, when I saw patients who were seriously ill or difficult cases, I would tell them: "I'm a beginner, I can only treat minor illnesses. A case like yours is beyond my ability. You'd better go to a big hospital!" But when I said this, they complained. An old man told me, "Bourgeois-trained doctors" in big hospitals do not pay much attention to workers and poor and lower-middle peasants. This old man developed leg trouble ten years ago. When he went to see "bourgeois-trained doctors," they did not give him careful treatment. As a result, the sensory nerve in his left leg became numb. The harm done to the working people by Liu Shao-ch'i's counterrevolutionary revisionist line in medical and health work made my very angry. I again studied Chairman Mao's great instructions on medical and health work and other related teachings. This strengthened my determination to fight to defend Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in medical work.

From then on, I did not stint any effort in studying and practicing acupuncture (needle treatment) so that I would be able to treat the masses. In order to do something for the old man, I learned acupuncture from the army doctors and experienced medical assistants in my medical section. When they showed me an acupuncture point, I would try the treatment on the same point on my own body. After few days, I had grasped the essentials for curing the old man's leg trouble. I went to his home every day to give him acupuncture treatment. Five days later, there were signs of improvement. His leg felt more comfortable, although the nerve was still numb. I went to ask a doctor to help me diagnose the symptoms. What he told me made me think I ought to apply strong stimulation. I took several long needles and tried them first on my own leg. Then, I went back to the old man. After several insertions,

perspiration oozed out in beads on his left leg which had not sweated for a dozen years. His family was overjoyed and I myself was too happy to sleep that night. After a period of treatment, his leg was cured.

I summed up the experience I gained in the course of giving treatment. In a short period, I have grasped the acupuncture methods for curing common diseases. I have cured poor and lower-middle peasants of difficult diseases including paralysis and blindness and common ones such as trachitis, asthma, arthritis and gastric trouble.

Rely on Mao Tsetung Thought To Open Up the "Forbidden Area" for Treating Deaf-Mutes

Later, the leadership sent me to a school for deaf-mutes in Liaoyuan to disseminate Mao Tsetung thought and give the students acupuncture treatment. When I saw that the students could not hear Chairman Mao's voice even though they had ears, and could not cheer, "Long live Chairman Mao!" I was sad. I made this vow: "Chairman Mao! I will act according to your instructions, bring to the students your deep concern for them and make it possible for them to hear your great voice and to express what is in their hearts by wishing you a long, long life!"

When news of our treatment of deaf-mutes became known it shook the so-called "famous doctors" and "experts." One specialist in internal medicine who had studied in Japan said: "I've studied medicine for decades but have never before heard of curing deaf-mutes with only a needle. It's as impossible as the sun rising in the west."

Chairman Mao teaches us: "The movement of change in the world of objective reality is never-ending and so is man's cognition of truth through practice." I thought, since such an affliction exists man can know it and there must be a way to cure it. We are revolutionary fighters armed with Mao Tsetung thought and can certainly rid ourselves of bourgeois stereotypes and open up the "forbidden area."

I first made experiments on myself, inserting the needles several hundred times and gradually mastering the technique for curing deaf-mutes. Only then did I start treating the students. After a time most of the students could hear but could not speak. Some could speak but their pronunciation was not clear. I thought to myself that the reason why their hearing ability was regained quickly was because the needles were put in deep at the acupuncture points for treating deafness. Perhaps they cannot speak because the needles have not been inserted deep enough at the point for treating dumbness. Thus I decided to try on myself at this point.

I went through some books on acupuncture before my experiment, hoping to get some enlightenment. But all gave the same answer: deep insertion is forbidden at the point for treating dumbness; if the needle is inserted to a certain depth, even a person who is perfectly well will become mute; and if it goes deeper, there is the danger of death.

Chairman Mao's teaching "wherever there is struggle there is sacrifice" and "to die for the people is weightier than Mount Tai" gave me courage and strength. I took a needle and tried the first deep insertion at this point on my body. When the needle reached a certain depth, both my arms felt very numb. When it went deeper, my arms and one hand were very painful and numb, and the hand I had used to insert the needle became too numb to press the needle in further. I read Chairman Mao's teaching "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory" and continued to press the needle in. When it went still deeper, my head swelled, my whole body became numb and my throat felt hot, and it was only at this time that I took the needle out. This forbidden area was at last opened. I jumped with joy. But when I remembered that this was only the first attempt, I took the needle again and inserted it at the same point five times on end, ignoring the pain. I had no other unusual feelings. On the following day, I treated a student named Wang Ya-chin by deep insertion. After three days of treatment, the girl who had been mute for 15 years shouted for the first time in her life: "Long live Chairman Mao!"

Thanks to the strenuous efforts of the propaganda team, after a period of treatment by deep insertion, 157 of the 168 students in the school were able to hear and 149 able to shout "Long live Chairman Mao!" Forty-five of them could sing the song "The East Is Red" and began putting on performances to spread Mao Tsetung thought.

Scale New Heights in Medicine for People

I was honored by the Party and the people after I had gained some success by following Chairman Mao's great teachings. It was then that some so-called "famous doctors" and "experts" came up and flattered me, saying: "You have been able to open up the 'forbidden area' for treating deaf-mutes after only four years' schooling. It is truly a rarity to have a man who is so proficient, and you will certainly be a famous doctor in the future." The flattery of the bourgeoisie put me on guard ideologically.

With this problem in mind, I studied Chairman Mao's works. I thought: "The leadership praised me in order to encourage me to speed up my advance along the road of serving the people. The bourgeoisie flattered me so that what I had been honored for would go to my head and lead me astray. I am Chairman Mao's medical worker. I must march forward resolutely along the road of serving the people wholeheartedly, which Chairman Mao has pointed out, and must not let myself be overwhelmed by being honored."

Wang Chiao-hsia, a victim of gastroptosis, prolapse of the uterus and hypertension, asked me for medical treatment. I had never treated these diseases but, upon recalling Chairman Mao's great teaching "Serve the people," agreed to handle her case. Her illness was very serious; I thought hard about methods of treatment for several days but did not find any good method. Some "famous doctors" and "experts" advised me: "Young Chao, you're different now from former days. You must be more cautious in various aspects!"

I pondered over these words and found something wrong with them. In what way was I different from former days? I was a medical assistant before and I am still a medical assistant. When they told me I am different from before, they only meant that the Party and the people had bestowed me with some honor and they wanted to remind me not to lose it. Thinking of this, I realized that not treating Wang Chiao-hsia so that I could keep the honor given me or not to be afraid to lose it and boldly probe ahead so as to serve the people wholeheartedly--this represented the sharp struggle between two different ideologies. I made up my mind to serve the people wholeheartedly just as I had before.

Following Chairman Mao's teaching to find the principal contradiction, I diagnosed Wang Chiao-hsia's symptoms. She had had gastroptosis for 12 years. Her stomach had sunk down to the area of the pelvis, thus causing prolapse of the uterus. As a result, she was greatly handicapped and work was difficult for her. In addition, her condition brought on high blood pressure. Judging from all this, the principal contradiction in her case was to be found in her gastroptosis. So I concentrated my efforts on treating this first. But where to begin? I thought it was possible that trouble with the nerves of the stomach was the cause of her gastroptosis. Wouldn't it be cured if the nerves were restored to their normal function? I compared this with carrying things in a network bag. If you take hold of the draw string, you can lift the bag. Wasn't the same principle involved? I thought that a quick insertion of the needle at a point in the middle of the stomach and two deep insertions through either side of the stomach might be helpful.

I tried the needle treatment on the same point on my body. I had a feeling of heaviness in the abdomen only when the needle reached a certain depth. I then inserted two other needles to both sides of my stomach and felt a strong contraction. I was very happy, and used this method on Wang Chiao-hsia.

After three weeks of treatment, her stomach drew to a point above the navel. After that, I treated her of prolapse of the uterus. To make sure, I also tried the treatment on myself first. Her prolapse was cured in one needling. Overjoyed at the results, she relaxed to such an extent that her blood pressure became nearly normal. She has recovered completely.

Nurtured by Mao Tsetung thought, I have treated 4,000 people by acupuncture in the past year, and have not only cured common and recurrent diseases, but also some difficult diseases.

From now on, I must redouble my efforts in the living study and application of Mao Tsetung thought, give full play to the revolutionary spirit of dauntlessness, remain modest and prudent, continue the revolution and be a revolutionary medical worker always boundlessly loyal to our great leader Chairman Mao.

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Depend on Mao Tsetung Thought To Throw Open the "Forbidden Area" of Deaf-Mutism

by

Chao P'u-yü (赵普羽)
of the Mao Tsetung Thought Medical Propaganda Team of a certain PLA unit

(Peking Jen-min Jih-pao, October 24, 1969)

Carrying out Liu Shao-ch'i's counterrevolutionary revisionist health line, the bourgeois medical "authorities" and "experts" had no regard for the sufferings of the laboring people. They merely worshipped and fawned on foreigners, and they regarded all kinds of diseases which the foreigners were unable to cure as so-called "incurable diseases." What is called "incurable disease" is an extremely erroneous description that reflect the medical thought of idealism and metaphysics. According to the Marxist-Leninist viewpoint, everything in the world can be understood. Consequently, it is also possible to know and treat gradually all diseases. Our depending on Mao Tsetung thought to throw open the "forbidden area" of deaf-mutism is a good case in point.

Deaf-mutes are often found among the broad masses of the people. For a time they were regarded by the bourgeois medical "authorities" and "experts" as "incurable." In 1968, in accordance with Chairman Mao's great teaching, "serve the people wholeheartedly," we went to the deaf-mute school of Liaoyüan municipality in Kirin province to propagate Mao Tsetung thought and to treat the students who were deaf and dumb. We visited the homes of all students of the school and discovered that more than 90 percent of these students were the children of workers and poor and lower-middle peasants. Most of these students had gone to many places and many big hospitals for treatment. But all of them were told that "deaf-mutism is incurable."

In order to relieve the class brothers of their sufferings, we decided to treat them with acupuncture. The "dumb spot" is an important spot for treating deaf-mutism. But some of the old books about acupuncture and moxibustion delimit it as the "forbidden spot" and some stipulate that it can be punctured only to a depth of 3/10 to half of an inch. Practice shows that penetration to such a depth cannot yield good result. Is it possible to penetrate to a greater depth? At the time, some people said: "There is not a chapter about the treatment of deaf-mutism in foreign books. What nonsense it is for you to attempt to cure a disease which even the foreigners consider as 'incurable'!" Some people also said: "When this spot is punctured to a depth of one inch, a healthy person would become a mute, and when the spot is punctured to a depth of 1½ inches, life is endangered." The bourgeois "authorities" and "experts knew only to delve into books and trail behind foreigners. They had not the least thought of shattering the foreign and old conventions, overtaking and surpassing the advanced level of the world and serving the laboring people. What they called "incurable diseases" are actually diseases not given treatment.

The great leader Chairman Mao teaches us: "The Chinese people are ambitious and capable, and they certainly are in a position to overtake and surpass the advanced level of the world in the near future." As fighters nursed with Mao Tsetung thought, we must rely on invincible Mao Tsetung thought to throw open the "forbidden area" of deaf-mutism and turn deaf-mutism from an "incurable disease" into a curable one.

In order to cure deaf-mutism, I carried out practice myself in accordance with Chairman Mao's teaching that "all true knowledge springs from direct experience." Because I had no experience, I conducted experiments with my body, and because I had no technical knowledge, I learned as I worked. In those days, my head and ears hummed because of the puncturing, and I found it difficult even to take my meals. However, when I thought of overcoming this so-called "incurable disease" to enable the deaf-mutes to cry "Long live Chairman Mao," I had inexhaustible strength to draw on, and the pain meant nothing.

I also followed Chairman Mao's teaching that the revolutionary spirit should be integrated with the scientific attitude. Facing the drawing of human anatomy together with other comrades, I carefully analyzed the location of the "dumb spot" and the nerve center. Boundlessly loyal to the great leader Chairman Mao, I held a glistening silver needle and inserted it deep into my own "dumb spot." When the needle penetrated to a depth of 1½ inches, my nerve had a stronger feeling, my arm and hand sensed a shock-like pain as though my whole body had been electrified. At the time, Chairman Mao's great voice sounded in my ears: "Whenever there is struggle there is sacrifice, and death is a common occurrence. But we have the interests of the people and the sufferings of the great majority at heart, and when we die for the people it is a worthy death." With the red sun that was in my heart, nothing could stop me from advancing. I finally managed to puncture the "dumb spot" to a depth of more than two inches. I was very pleased because I had relied on Mao Tsetung thought to throw open this "forbidden area"--the "dumb spot"--and dealt a powerful blow to Liu Shao-ch'i's counterrevolutionary revisionist health line. In this way, by conducting close to a hundred experiments with my body and puncturing myself several hundred times, I gradually grasped some laws governing the treatment of deaf-mutism.

Under the joint effort of the comrades of the propaganda team, 149 of the 168 students in the whole school were able to shout "Long live Chairman Mao" after treatment. Many comrades mounted the rostrum to propagate Mao Tsetung thought. Later, our unit also dealt with more than 10,000 deaf-mutes from 29 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions (Taiwan excepted). After treatment, more than 80 percent obtained prominent results. This was a great victory for Mao Tsetung thought, a great victory for Chairman Mao's proletarian health line.

In the practice to throw open the "forbidden area" of deaf-mutism, we deeply comprehend that Mao Tsetung thought is the fountainhead of strength and the ocean of wisdom. So long as we steadfastly carry out work according to Mao Tsetung thought and integrate the high degree of revolutionary spirit with the scientific attitude, the "incurable diseases" can be turned into curable ones.

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A PLA Medical Team in Sinkiang Serves People Wholly and Entirely

(NCNA English, Urumchi, November 1, 1969)

The "June 26" medical team from a hospital of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, which is devoting its service wholly and entirely to the poor and lower-middle peasants in Moyu hsien in Sinkiang, Northwest China, is highly praised by the local revolutionary masses.

In accordance with our great leader Chairman Mao's teaching: "In medical and health work, put the stress on the rural areas," the medical team went to Huochien commune in Moyu hsien this spring with deep class feelings for the poor and lower-middle peasants. Bringing the red treasured books of Quotations from Chairman Mao Tsetung with them, they served the poor and lower-middle peasants heart and soul. Working long hours every day, they treated the patients and joined the peasants in their work.

Sutahan Can Speak Again

The team arrived at the first production team of the fourth brigade to take part in manual labor one day in April. Poor and lower-middle peasants there told the members about a deaf-mute girl, Sutahan, and asked for help. Though the team had had no experience in treating such cases, it decided to try and cure Sutahan, the daughter of a poor peasant, after re-studying Chairman Mao's great teaching: "This question of 'for whom?' is fundamental; it is a question of principle."

At the age of five, the girl had gradually lost her speech after having a high fever, because of the influence of the arch renegade Liu Shao-ch'i's counter-revolutionary revisionist line in medical and health work, she had been unable to receive the necessary treatment.

Members of the team carefully studied Chairman Mao's instructions on medical and health work and decided they would overcome every difficulty to remove their class sister's handicap.

In accordance with Chairman Mao's teaching on grasping the principal contradiction, they decided to use first acupuncture to restore the girl's hearing.

To find the most effective acupuncture points, they experimented on their own bodies. They got so wrapped up in their work that they often forgot to have their meals. Some comrades inserted the needles around their ears so many times that their ears swelled up. But they continued with their needling.

After repeated study and practice on themselves, the comrades finally mastered the method and began applying it to Sutahan and other deaf-mute patients. Summing up their experience as they went along, they discovered even more effective acupuncture points.

After more than a month's careful treatment, Sutahan, who had been deaf and mute for 17 years, began to speak again! Hearing the powerful strains of "The east is red, the sun rises..." on the radio, she shouted: "Long live Chairman Mao! A long, long life to Chairman Mao!"

Jouzuhan Can Walk Again

A girl, whose legs were completely paralyzed, was sent to the medical team at the beginning of May. She was a victim of infantile paralysis, which was formerly regarded as an incurable disease by bourgeois "specialists" and "authorities." This, however, did not dishearten the medical team, which was armed with invincible Mao Tsetung thought. Though the team had no experience in treating such cases, they studied Chairman Mao's teaching: "We can learn what we did not know. We are not only good at destroying the old world, we are also good at building the new." After much discussion, they agreed that they could cure the girl if the functioning of the nerves in her legs could be restored. They began to learn from other units that had experience in treating paralysis, and experimented with acupuncture on themselves over and over again. Mastering the skill of acupuncture, they cured this 14-year-old poor peasant girl who had been paralyzed for nine years in only one month. She is now able to walk.

Nurhan Is Saved

A lorry rushed up to where the medical team was stationed at 2 in the afternoon on May 7. As soon as the lorry stopped, an anxious poor peasant shouted: "PLA comrades, this pregnant woman is in danger!" The team members lost no time in examining her. A poor peasant in the Yaowu people's commune, she had been in labor for eleven hours and the foetus was dead. In mortal danger, the woman had to have an emergency operation. But because the team did not have the necessary instruments, it could not do the Caesarian section. Also, there wasn't a proper operating room. Defying all this, they said: "Whether we dare to operate on Nurhan is a test of our consciousness between the two lines and also a test of our devotion to the people." When they were told that the Huochien people's commune's clinic had the instruments needed for the operation, the members moved the patient to that clinic. The hearty cooperation of the medical workers of the clinic enabled them to get ready for the operation in a hurry. Since there was no operating table, an ordinary bed was used; since some medical apparatus and instruments were lacking, others were used instead. After continuous treatment following the operation, Nurhan had a quick recovery.

* * *

New Methods of Needle Treatment Make Many Blind Regain Sight

(NCNA English, Peking, November 28, 1969)

Using new methods of acupuncture, the clinic of a PLA battalion has successfully treated more than ten kinds of eye diseases that are difficult to treat. More than 80 blind people regained their sight. Ninety percent of the over 1,100 patients showed good results.

In achieving the successes, the clinic steadfastly carried out Chairman Mao's teachings on health work, got rid of fetishes and superstitions and dared to think and act.

Following Chairman Mao's great instruction "In medical and health work, put the stress on the rural areas," members of the clinic wholeheartedly serve the local poor and lower-middle peasants.

The left eye of Kao Fei-fu who came to the clinic had gone blind 29 years ago. Last year, his right eye, which had been diseased for 28 years, also went blind. He had gone to five big hospitals and the bourgeois "famous doctors" said: "There's a white membrane over your eyeballs. No matter how much we treat you, you'll go blind."

Although the members of the clinic had never treated the blind, they had profound proletarian feelings and made up their minds to see to it that their blind brother regain his sight.

The clinic has only one army doctor, one junior doctor and two medical assistants. They had not studied ophthalmology, but they were determined to follow Chairman Mao's teachings and to obtain skill through practical experience. They decided to use new methods of acupuncture to treat the blind man. They experimented with the treatment on their own bodies.

The Chingming point is important in treating cornea leukoma by acupuncture. The bourgeois "authorities" had stipulated: "Deep insertion is forbidden at this point." Books on acupuncture treatment said that the needle could only be inserted two fen.* Those who are proficient can insert the needle five fen, if necessary.

But medical assistant Liang Chin-hua, an activist in the living study and application of Mao Tsetung thought and a Communist Party member, experimented on himself until the needle had been inserted to a depth of

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* In acupuncture, the depth to which the needle is inserted varies according to the person. Tsun and fen are used to denote this depth. When the patient forms a ring by joining his middle finger to his thumb, the distance between the ends of the two lines on the lateral side of the second row of the middle finger is one tsun. One tsun equals ten fen.

18 fen. Ignoring the danger and carrying out repeated experiments, he finally gained the experience of inserting the needle deep in the area near the eye.

After being given this kind of acupuncture treatment several times, Kao Fei-fu's sight was restored. With tears in his eyes, he stood in front of a portrait of Chairman Mao, shouting over and over: "Long live Chairman Mao! A long, long life to him!"

Based on the experience obtained in the first case, comrades in the clinic restored the sight of more than 30 people whose blindness had been caused by leukoma. When the news spread, more and more patients went to this clinic, and cases were more complicated.

When treatment produced no effect on an old blind woman, the men of the clinic studied Chairman Mao's philosophical writings. In accordance with this teaching of Chairman Mao's: "The principle of using different methods to resolve different contradictions is one which Marxist-Leninists must strictly observe," they examined the patients one by one, made a general analysis, and found that this old woman was blinded by cataracts and only another method of treatment could help her.

Led by the battalion Party committee, the comrades began trying to locate new points for acupuncture on themselves. For days on end, they tried needles of varying sizes and lengths, on the area around their eyes using different manipulations. After months of trial efforts, they discovered six new points. By inserting needles in the new points they enabled the old woman to regain her sight.

In dealing with blindness due to cataracts, the comrades found that effects differed at the same points and when the same manipulation was used. To raise the therapeutic effect, they continued making tests on their own faces in the area near the eye and tried many different manipulations and made remarkable progress. In three months' time, they had treated 89 different types of cataract patients, and 90 percent of them had made progress.

Witnessing this clinic's achievements in treating eye diseases, eye specialists from big hospitals and medical colleges and other visitors, all praised the medical men, saying: "PLA men armed with Mao Tsetung thought can work wonders."

* * *

PLA Nurse Chen Shu-ching Serves People Wholeheartedly

(NCNA-English, Nanning, November 29, 1969)

Following our great leader Chairman Mao's teaching: "In medical and health work, put the stress on the rural areas," Chen Shu-ching, a nurse in a hospital of the People's Liberation Army Kwangchow units went deep into the countryside and wholeheartedly served the poor and lower-middle peasants. She has been successful in curing woman patient Chen Yeh-fang, who had been paralyzed for 17 years. In doing this, Chen Shu-ching demolished the diagnosis by "noted" bourgeois doctors who said the case was "incurable," and she contributed to the carrying out and defending of Chairman Mao's proletarian line on medical and health work.

Her outstanding deeds are greatly appreciated and praised by the local poor and lower-middle peasants. This year, she was chosen an activist in the living study and application of Mao Tsetung thought by the PLA Kwangchow units, and became a good example for other people to learn from.

Twenty-four-year-old Chen Shu-ching is the daughter of a poor work man. Boundlessly loyal to and with profound proletarian feelings for our great leader Chairman Mao, she joined the People's Liberation Army--the great school of Mao Tsetung thought--in 1965 and became a hospital nurse.

She has been consistent in studying and applying Mao Tsetung thought in a living way, and served the injured and sick wholeheartedly. Whenever a blood transfusion is needed, she is always the first to be a donor. Sometimes she volunteered for patient after patient. When other comrades advised her not to do so for the sake of her health, she firmly replied: "If it means getting our class brothers back to their fighting posts rapidly, I'm willing to contribute my life, let alone my blood!" Nurtured by Mao Tsetung thought, she quickly became a selfless, dauntless revolutionary fighter and has been cited many times as a "five-good" fighter and a "model Communist Youth League member," and gloriously joined the Chinese Communist Party.

Chen Shu-ching's consciousness of class struggle and the struggle between the two lines rose continually during the great proletarian cultural revolution. Even though she is a nurse, she conscientiously studied the new acupuncture treatment so as to defend Chairman Mao's proletarian line on medical and health work, and, in accordance with Chairman Mao's instructions, she made up her mind to do medical and health work in the countryside and completely change the shortage of medical facilities there brought about by the arch renegade Liu Shao-ch'i's counter-revolutionary revisionist line.

Last March, Chen Shu-ching joined the medical team organized by the hospital and went to a village of the Mingshan commune in the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region, bringing Chairman Mao's deep concern to the poor and lower-middle peasants.

With deep proletarian class feelings for them, she went to poor and lower-middle peasants' homes to treat them. When she came to the home of poor peasant Chen Yeh-fang, who had been paralyzed for a long time, the latter clasped Chen Shu-ching's hands and wept.

Chen Yeh-fang, who is 39, started working when she was about 10 years old, doing odd jobs for landlords and capitalists and suffered much cruel exploitation and oppression. Under Chairman Mao's leadership, she was emancipated after liberation. While she was working one day 17 years ago, she fell down accidentally and this caused minor bone damage. Because of the counter-revolutionary revisionist medical and health line which the arch renegade Liu Shao-ch'i feverishly pushed in the countryside, there was a shortage of doctors and medicine for the poor and lower-middle peasants and Chen Yeh-fang's condition grew worse. Not long afterwards her husband and two sons died from illness. This was a great shock for her and she became even worse. She went to many places seeking a cure and was diagnosed by "famous" bourgeois doctors as suffering from such "incurable diseases" as "cerebral sclerosis" and "subarachnoid hemorrhage." She lost the use of her legs and for 17 years depended pushing a stool with her hands and dragging herself about with it. The poor and lower-middle peasants often brought her water and fuel. She longed to join the others in the fight to grasp revolution and promote production.

Chen Yeh-fang's angry accusation and urgent demand gave Chen Shu-ching a profound education and aroused her bitter hatred for the arch renegade Liu Shao-ch'i. Looking up at Chairman Mao's portrait, she told Chen Yeh-fang: "Chairman Mao has sent me here to treat your illness. Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in medical and health work will certainly make you stand up again!"

But curing a serious paralysis like Chen Yeh-fang's was not an ordinary test for Chen Shu-ching, who lacked experience in medical work. She repeatedly studied Chairman Mao's teaching: "Young people should dare to think, dare to speak and dare to act, should be boldly creative, and must not be intimidated by big names and authorities." She realized that whether she dared to upset the conclusion of "noted" bourgeois doctors or not was a big question of what line to follow and whom to serve.

Full of enthusiasm and carrying along the precious red book, Chen Shu-ching went to live in Chen Yeh-fang's house and gave her acupuncture treatment. She regarded this as a battle in defense of Chairman Mao's proletarian line on medical and health work.

She slept on the same bed as Chen Yeh-fang and did household chores for her, washing clothes, emptying the bed pan, carrying water, sweeping the floor and cooking. Chen Shu-ching studied the three constantly read articles with Chen Yeh-fang every evening so as to arm her with Mao Tsetung thought. She encouraged Chen Yeh-fang to follow Chairman Mao's teaching "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory." This helped

strengthen her confidence and will in fighting her illness. Her heart moved by profound class feelings, Chen Yeh-fang said: "You are really a kinsman sent by Chairman Mao!"

Following Chairman Mao's great teaching "proceed from objective reality," Chen Shu-ching carefully studied the course of Chen Yeh-fang's illness. She came to the conclusion that the shock of losing three members of her family owing to Liu Shao-ch'i's counter-revolutionary revisionist line in health and medical work had caused Chen Yeh-fang's paralysis. Once the nervous depression was ended and the nerves stimulated, Chen Yeh-fang could be cured.

Boldly casting away the absurd conclusions drawn by the "noted" bourgeois doctors, Chen Shu-ching proposed to treat Chen Yeh-fang with deep needle insertion and strong stimulation. The Party branch of the medical team supported her.

Where should the needle be inserted in using this method of deep penetration and strong stimulation, and what was the possibility of danger? Chen Shu-ching studied Chairman Mao's teaching "Will the Chinese cower before difficulties when they are not afraid even of death?" and so she unhesitantly decided to test the needling on herself. She tried more than 30 acupuncture points on her body. She continued testing even when her body became numb and ached. She once inserted the needle at dangerous points on her head, guiding herself by her reflection in a mirror. She nearly lost her footing as the needling made her dizzy and her vision blurred. Chen Yeh-fang was moved and said to Chen Shu-ching: "How can I let you hurt yourself like this?" Chen Shu-ching answered firmly: "Don't worry. It's my duty. I am a Communist. I won't spare my life if it meets the needs of the people." She recited to herself "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount every difficulty to win victory," and continued until the more effective points were located. Effective and safest insertion gradually restored warmth and feeling to Chen Yeh-fang's icy cold lower limbs. To revive the wasted muscles, Chen Shu-ching massaged the limbs every day. She discovered a new "sensitivity point," and used it for acupuncture treatment which produced very good results. The patient began to be able to move her paralyzed lower limbs.

In this way, Chen Shu-ching overcame one difficulty after another, using Mao Tsetung thought as her weapon. She gave Chen Yeh-fang careful treatment and nursing and on the morning of the 27th day of treatment, Chen Yeh-fang, who had been paralyzed for 17 years, stood up on her feet. Overjoyed, Chen Shu-ching supported her and stood with her in front of a portrait of Chairman Mao, both cheering: "Long live Chairman Mao! A long, long life to Chairman Mao!" Chen Yeh-fang was so moved that tears ran down her cheeks. She said: "Chairman Mao, it is you who saved me from the misery of the old society. Today you have enabled me to stand on my feet again. Your goodness is deeper than the ocean and higher than the mountains!"

Chen Shu-ching continued the treatment and Chen Yeh-fang was able to take a few steps with the aid of a pair of crutches.

"Chen Yeh-fang can walk now!" The news spread rapidly throughout the village and all the poor and lower-middle peasants were inspired.

Because of her work, Chen Shu-ching had to leave the village at that time. In August of this year, Chen Shu-ching once again went to Chen Yeh-fang's home. Seeing that Chen Yeh-fang was so much better, Chen Shu-ching was very happy and wanted to cure her completely. She hoped to enable Chen Yeh-fang to throw away her crutches and became a healthy person as well as a Mao Tsetung thought propagandist and a fighter in "grasping revolution, promoting production." She hoped that Chen Yeh-fang's improvement would bring Chairman Mao's revolutionary line on medical and health work deep into the hearts of the people.

While curing Chen Yeh-fang, Chen Shu-ching studied and applied Chairman Mao's works in a living way together with her. They made revolutionary mass criticism, fought self and criticized revisionism. This raised Chen Yeh-fang's consciousness of the struggle between the two lines. Chen Yeh-fang was more keen to do exercises to help herself.

Thanks to Chen Shu-ching's patient and careful treatment and her own hard efforts, Chen Yeh-fang can now walk 2.5 kilometers on flat ground at one go.

The rapid recuperation of Chen Yeh-fang made Chen Shu-ching recognize more distinctly the enormous power of Mao Tsetung thought. She became more active in helping Chen Yeh-fang study Chairman Mao's works. Now, Chen Yeh-fang has become an activist in the living study and application of Mao Tsetung thought and a pathbreaker in fighting self and criticizing revisionism. She also takes part in the team's productive labor. Chen Shu-ching also taught Chen Yeh-fang the new acupuncture treatment and Chen Yeh-fang has now already been able to use this treatment to cure several common diseases and herself become a "barefoot doctor" warmly acclaimed by the masses of the locality.

Chen Shu-ching not only cured Chen Yeh-fang, but helped the village run Mao Tsetung thought study classes and train barefoot health workers. She trained two part-time barefoot health workers for every production team. She also helped the village set up a center to sell Chinese medicinal herbs and popularize the new acupuncture treatment. This is ending the village's lack of medical facilities. Now Chairman Mao's proletarian line on medical and health work shines brightly in the countryside.

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PLA Mao Tsetung Thought Medical Team Restores Blind Tibetans' Sight

(NCNA-English, Lhasa, December 19, 1969)

Earnestly carrying out Chairman Mao's great instruction on medical and health work, the Mao Tsetung thought medical team of a People's Liberation Army air force unit stationed in Tibet has restored the sight of 33 Tibetan class brothers by using the new method of acupuncture treatment. These Tibetans had been blind for many years.

Following Chairman Mao's great teaching "in medical and health work, put the stress on the rural areas," the medical team brought Chairman Mao's works and their medical kits with them and went to nearby rural and pastoral areas to treat the emancipated Tibetan peasants and herdsmen.

While making its rounds, the team met Tochiehtunchu, an old emancipated serf who had been totally blind for over 30 years. Clasping the hands of an armyman, the old Tibetan angrily accused the savage serfdom of making him blind through torture. He said: "The democratic reform emancipated us. But the counter-revolutionary revisionist line in medical and health work pushed by the arch renegade Liu Shao-ch'i prevented me from any chance of being cured." The old man's words aroused the team's bitter hatred for the old society and for Liu Shao-ch'i's counter-revolutionary revisionist line in medical and health work. They pledged: "To defend Chairman Mao's proletarian line in medical and health work, we must cure this old Tibetan and enable him to see again."

The team decided to use the new method of acupuncture treatment in treating him. Bearing in mind Chairman Mao's great teaching "Serve the people wholeheartedly," the medical workers first experimented on themselves and ignored the pain. After accumulating experience, they gave Tochiehtunchu the first needle insertion, then inserted the second. The old man began to have a slight vision of light fluctuating. But he still could not see anything. The medical workers summed up their experience and decided that if he was to regain his sight, the needle must be inserted at a new point. If the needle did not go in deep enough it would be useless, and if it went in too deep death was a possibility.

In the revolutionary spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death, medical worker Li Shih-chuan experimented on himself. After repeated efforts, he finally found the right way for inserting the needle at this point. Fully confident, Li Shih-chuan gave the old man his third needle insertion, and right after the needle was removed he could see. Overwhelmed with happiness at being able to see the brilliant image of Chairman Mao for the first time in his life, the old Tibetan gripped the PLA man's two hands tightly and shouted: "Long live Chairman Mao!"

The joyful news that the PLA medical team had enabled old man Tochiehtunchu to see again quickly spread throughout the farming and livestock breeding areas. The medical team then took in 32 other blind people who, after careful and patient treatment, all regained their sight.

In talking about this, the emancipated Tibetan serfs have said: "The vicious serfdom tormented and blinded us. Now Chairman Mao has sent us doctors who enable us to regain our sight."

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